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SPECIAL ARTICLE BY ROBERT HALE
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THE ERA

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MESSRS. BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER WILL SELL BY AUCTION AT THE CANNON-STREET HOTEL, E.C., on WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 1920, at 2.30 o'clock precisely, the above described Valuable FREEHOLD and CENTRALLY situated PROPERTY (in 4 lots).
May be viewed, and particulars, with conditions, and plan obtained of Messrs. THEODORE BELL & CO., Solicitors, 6, Raymond Buildings, Gray's Inn, W.C.; and of BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER, Land Agents and Surveyors, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 23-30, Lime-street, E.C.

DRAMATIC AND THEATRICAL CARDS.

GWENDOLYN CARLISLE.
Disengaged. Lead or Special Parts.
39, Grays Inn-road, W.C. 1.

LYDIA DONOVAN.
Leading Business.
On tour (Camps). Perm. Add., A.A.

VIOLET LUDDINGTON.
Address, 50, Cartwright-gardens, W.C. 1.

FLORENCE LOVELL,
Autumn.
Countess, "Rose of Araby" (Opera).

CONSTANCE MEDWYN,
Disengaged Autumn; offers invited. (Mr. Harrison, autumn settled). Letters only. 4, Station-parade, Gerrard's Cross, Bucks.

MISS EVE MORE.
Leads.
All coms., 15, Paulton-sq., Chelsea, S.W. 3.

PHYLLIS VAUGHAN,
Leading Business. "Lyndhurst," Northampton-rd., Wellingbro'.

MR. J. HASTINGS BATSON.
Legitimate or Film Work.
Address, A.A., 32, Regent-street.

MR. H. CECIL BERYL.
At Liberty for Management.
30, Kingsholm-road, Gloucester.

MR. TOM BLACKLOCK.
June 21, Empire, Newport.
June 28, Empire, Cardiff.

MATTHEW BOULTON.
At Liberty.
4, Cranworth-gardens, London, S.W. 9.

MONTAGUE BUXTON.
Address, 39, Carden-road, London, S.E. 15.

At Liberty, June 28.

ARTHUR CARVEY,
Light Comedian, good Feeder.
Just finished 12 months' tour, H. Slingsby's "Oh Laugh" Co.

Coms., Palace, Lincoln.

Next, 3, Pickard-st., City-rd., London, E.C. 1.

GODFREY CLARKE.
Comedian. At liberty.
Stage or Cinema.
Height 5ft. 6in., slim build.
68 Golborne-road, North Kensington, W.10, or c/o A.A., 32, Regent-street, W. 1.

WILFRED CLOWES,
and his English Concertina.
This, Lancaster Hipp., return date.
Wire for June 28, July 12.

MR. GEORGE DELAFORCE
Disengaged.
995, Romford-road, E. 12.

MR. FRED GROVE.
Martin Harvey vacation tour.
This, Weston-super-Mare; next, Pier Pavilion, Eastbourne.

MR. J. PITT HARDACRE.
Address,
3, Kilburn Priory, N.W. 6.

TOM JENNINGS, Disengaged,
Resident or Touring Management; late T.R. Darlington. Address, 60, Walmer-road, Plumstead, S.E.

At liberty for a few weeks.
J. LISTER - WILLIAMS.
Leading Business.
Offers invited for good-class work.
"The play's the thing."
19a, High-street, St. John's Wood. Hampstead 8473.

HENRY LUDLOW,
Capt. De Trevignac, in "The Garden of Allah," Drury Lane T. Perm., C/o Canon Corfe, Truro.

GEORGE P. POLSON.
Disengaged.
74, Saltoun-road, S.W. 2.

MR. LEONARD ROBSON
Disengaged. Lead. Baritone.
9, Gt. Ormond-street, W.C. 1.

E. W. THOMAS and AGNES KNIGHTS. Disengaged.
7, Grafton-sq., Clapham-com., S.W. 4.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL.
Disengaged. Character or Old Men.
New address, 11, Mornington-cres., N.W. 1.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR.
Disengaged.
10, Upper Montagu-street, Baker-street, W.1.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY'S AGENCY, 3, Bedford-st., W.C. 2. 581 Gerr. "Frivolous, Westrand, London."

W. G. WESLEY,
Vacant for Revue and Pantomime.
28, Hartley-st., Kirkdale, Liverpool.

JAMES C. WILTON.
Disengaged for a few weeks. Town only. 2, Prima-road, S.W. 9.

MR. E. FENTON WINGATE.
S. M. for the Lilian Hallows Rep. Co. This, Grand T., Croydon.
June 28 (2 weeks), O.H., Belfast.

BIRMINGHAM.—Mrs. BROOMFIELD, 64, Holloway Head. Vacant Sunday next, 1 large combined room. Very comfortable.

DARLINGTON.—Mrs. Laidler, 16, Valley-street, highly recom. by Taru, Betty Wood, Fred Louin, &c., &c.

LEEDS.—Large Combined Room. Vacant Sunday.—MISS VERTE, 7, Cobden-place, Claypit-lane.

NEWPORT, MON. — Superior Rooms; professional ladies or gents, nr. Theatre and Empire; good accommodation terms. MRS. P. LEA, 8, Victoria-place.

SAVE the Children Fund
IN THE ARENA.
ROYAL ALBERT HALL.
Saturday, June 26, at 2.30 p.m.
Costume Performance of "Cavalleria Rusticana," and the Garden Scene of Gounod's "Faust."
Advance Bookings by ringing up Willesden 74.

VARIETY ARTISTS BENEVOLENT FUND AND INSTITUTION.

WEEKLY REPORT.

	£	s.	d.
Maintenance of Benevolent Institution, about	36	0	0
Number of old artists at Institution, 35 (ladies 9, men 26).			
Amount of weekly pensions	28	8	0
Amount paid in loans, grants, fares, etc.	7	3	9

WANTED ADVERTISEMENTS

THEATRES, COMPANIES, ARTISTS, AND MUSICIANS, &c., WANTED.
THREE LINES, 1s. 6d.
EACH ADDITIONAL LINE, 9d.
PREPAID.
DISPLAYED LINES, 1s. EACH.

ARTISTS, MUSICIANS, AND OTHERS SEEKING ENGAGEMENTS,
THREE LINES, 1s.
EACH ADDITIONAL LINE, 6d.,
PREPAID.
DISPLAYED LINES, 9d. EACH.

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Advertisement Manager, "The Era,"
35, WELLINGTON STREET, STRAND, W.C. 2.
Wire, "The Era, London."
Ring up, 4546 and 4547 Regent.

COMPANIES WANTED.

MILTON BODE AND EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies for
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
Nov. 1, 22, Jan. 10, 17, Feb. 7, 14, 21 on.

OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Feb. 21, 28, March 7, 14, 28, April 25, on.

ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Jan. 24, Feb. 14, 21, 28, March 7, 21 on.

OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Nov. 22, Jan. 17, Feb. 14, 21, 28, on.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
First vacant date, April 4, 11, 18, on.

Add., MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

HUDDERSFIELD THEATRE ROYAL.

WANTED Known,
Once nightly only,
The only first-class theatre in Huddersfield.
It serves a population of 500,000.

Arrangements complete for Autumn.
Now booking Spring, 1921.

ALFRED WARRING,
Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.

BRIXTON THEATRE, S.W.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only,
Oct. 4, 11, 25.
FREDK. MELVILLE.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Attractions for once or twice nightly for the Autumn.
Applications re dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, First-class Theatrical Companies, Operas, Variety, &c., on sharing terms, for Theatre Royal, Limerick. Vacant dates every other week from June 21. Apply by letter, stating terms and full particulars, to LICENSEE, 35, King Henry's-road, London, N.W. 3, or Local Manager, Theatre Royal, Limerick.

NEW THEATRE, OXFORD.
WANTED, High-class Attractions. Bookings include:—Fred Terry, Martin Harvey, Gertrude Elliott, F. R. Benson, D'Oyly Carte and Carl Rosa Companies, "Baby Bunting," "Tilly of Bloomsbury," "Bird of Paradise," "Who's Hooper?" "Pretty Peggy," "Chu Chin Chow," Phyllis Neilson-Terry.
Apply, S. C. DORRILL.

WANTED, Attractions for
THEATRE ROYAL AND EMPIRE, PETERBOROUGH.

Now in full tide of success.
Beautifully renovated.
Thoroughly up to date.
Run on No. 1 lines.
Once or twice nightly. Full weeks only.

Address:—

J. A. CAMPBELL,

Theatre Royal,

Grantham.

WANTED, good Revue or Repertoire, Monday next, June 28. Wire, WALLACE CHILDS, Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, First-class West-End Plays.

For dates, terms, &c., apply,
W. PAYNE.
Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, vacant June 28, July 12, on, small, good Companies or Combinations. MANAGER, Tivoli, Penny Stratford.

WANTED, Revues or Musical Pieces, July 12, onwards. Send fullest particulars, with tour list, EGBERT'S, LTD., Piccadilly Mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W. 1.

OPERA HOUSE, THE SPA, BRIDLINGTON.

WANTED, high-class Companies, Musical Comedy preferred.
No Revues.
July 12 (week), three or six days, Aug. 9 (three days).

Wire or write,
CHARLES PALMER,
The Spa.

PRINCESS PAVILION, FALMOUTH.
WANTED, first-class Attractions, to complete season's booking. Only Vacant Dates:—
July 12, 13, 14,
July 19, 20, 21,
Aug. 12, 13, 14 (?).
Wire, stating terms, percentage, MANAGER, St. George's Hall, Falmouth.

DRILL HALL THEATRE, LYME REGIS.
WANTED, Companies, Aug. 16, Sept. 13, 20. WENTWORTH CROKE, Studley, Lyme Regis.

WANTED, brilliant No. 1 Attractions for
THE GRAND THEATRE, OLDHAM,
Aug. 2, Oct. 4, Dec. 13.
Musical preferred—not Revues.
The Premier Theatre of Lancashire, with one of the largest stages.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, "Merrivale," Clifton-drive, St. Annes-on-Sea.

WANTED, First-class Company.
(Musical Show Preferred.)
Once nightly, August 30.
Apply, J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, Companies.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Nov. 29 (?), Dec. 6, 13 (?), Feb. 7 (?), 21 (?), March 7 (?), 14 (?), 21, 28 (?), and on, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, BATH.
Vacant June 28 (?), Aug. 30, Nov. 22 (?), Feb. 28 (?), March 7 (?), 14 (?), April 4 (?), 11, 25 (?). May 2, 16, and on, with exceptions.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
First three nights of the week.
June 28, Aug. 9 (?), 23, Sept. 6, 20 (?), Nov. 8, 15, 29, Dec. 13, 20, 27, Jan. 17, 24, 31, and on, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY.
Autumn and Spring Vacancies.
All other communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON, Colehurst, Worcester.

H. W. ROWLAND'S BOOKING CIRCUIT.

WANTED, High-class Attractions.
D.P. THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
Sept. 6 (3), Nov. 15, 29.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Sept. 9 (3), Dec. 13, 20.
PLEASURE GARDENS, FOLKESTONE.
Dec. 13, 20.
PALACE THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
Oct. 18, on, with exceptions.
PALACE THEATRE, MAIDSTONE.
Dec. 13, 20, Jan. 17, on.
Once nightly.
London Representative for W. W. Kelly and Opera House, Blackpool.

H. W. ROWLAND'S AGENCY,
52, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.
Regent, 1651. "Topobill, Piccy, London."

For other Companies Wanted see Displayed Wanted Section.

THEATRES WANTED.

CHARLES MACDONA'S COMPANIES.
"HOME AND BEAUTY."
WANTED, Sept. 27, Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.
"PYGMALION."
July 12, Aug. 2, 16, Sept. 13, 20, 27, Oct. 11, and on, with exceptions.
Frank Curzon's and Gerald Du Maurier's Company.
Under the direction of Charles Macdona.
"THE CHOICE."
Aug. 2, 9, Sept. 27, Nov. 29.
CHARLES MACDONA,
29a, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.

"CHARLIE ON THE SPREE."
The Novelty Musical Burlesque, in which wonderful singing and big laughs predominate with an all-star cast.
Now playing the Broadhead Tour.
WANTED, July 12 and 26,
Aug. 2, 9, 16, 23,
Sept. 13, various, on.
If you want a real high-class Novelty Show, wire or write,
LESLIE LANE,
Crown Theatre, Eccles; next, Hippo., Bury.

"A WEEK END."
No. 1 Company.

WANTED, Aug. 9, Oct. 18, and next year.
This week, O.H., Middlesbrough.
Next week, Artillery Theatre, Woolwich.
Rights to sell: U.S.A., Canada, Australia, S. Africa, Cinemas, &c.

W. W. ELLIS,
44, Carlton-hill, London, N.W. 8.

WANTED, Theatres, for dramatic Attractions, all July, Aug. 2, 9. W. V. GARROD, 94, Kennington Park-rd., London, S.E. 11.

"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
By Walter Howard.
The show that stands the test of time.
Refer wherever played.
Thanks to Otto C. Culling, Arthur Carlton, C. P. Cooke, C. Roger, F. R. Ellis, Bert Golden, Guy Needham, Dan Barnard, Leon Vint, C. Millward, J. Branson, for offers of June 28.
Refer H. L. Warburton, re show and results at Warrington.
WANTED, July 26, to follow Doncaster, Sept. 27, Wales, Oct. 4, precede Walsall, Oct. 18, precede Southport, Nov. 15, between Lancs and Weymouth, Nov. 29, to precede Brighton. Splendid production and cast. SIDNEY RENNEF, Queen's, Yarmouth. Next, Merthyr.

WANTED, Aug. 2, Aug. 9, to precede New Theatre, Oxford, the Romantic Naval Play that breathes the spirit of the Fleet.
"THE SILENT WATCH."
Full London Company.
Enthusiastic reception at WIMBLEDON THEATRE.
Refer J. B. Mulholland, Esq.
KING'S, HAMMERSMITH, June 28.
Wanted, Aug. 2, Aug. 9, Sept. 13 (to precede Newcastle), Oct. 4 (to precede Sheffield), Nov. 22 (to precede Liverpool).
Now booking Spring.
ARTHUR ROSEBERY,
53, Blandford-road, Bedford Park, London, W. 4.

"HER KINGDOM OF LOVE."
"THE CUSTODY OF THE CHILD," and Class Repertoire.
WANTED, Monday next, through breach.
Printing ready.
B. C. HOWITT, Palace, Durham.

HATHAWAY-BARON TOURS. PERSONAL COMPANY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Aug. 30 (?), Aug. 30 (?), Aug. 30 (?),
New Year's Week.
Only Open Dates this year.

Repertoire includes:
"THE CHINESE PUZZLE,"
"JACK O' JINGLES,"
"THE GAMBLERS,"
&c., &c.

Over 8 tons of Scenery and Props. carried (two trucks).

Wanted, Seasons for 1921, from May 9, on.

July 5, opening 6 weeks, return season, at Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

All communications,
VIVIAN A. BARON,
This and next, Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

"THE GIRL IN THE TAXI."
Famous Musical Comedy from the Lyric Theatre.
Once or twice nightly. Tour reopens June 28, Chelsea Palace.
WANTED, dates, No. 1 Company, Aug. 16, precede Tynemouth, Aug. 30, precede Portsmouth, Oct. 25, on, with exceptions.
Apply,
HUBERT WOODWARD.
102, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.

"THE NATURAL LAW."
Charles Harrington as Ralph Webster.
"THE NATURAL LAW."
A huge success in Sheffield.
WANTED, Aug. 9, 30, Sept. 6, 20, on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

"THE LUCK OF THE NAVY."
WANTED,
August 23, October 11.
"BREWSTER'S MILLIONS."
October 18 and 25.

ALEXANDER TELFORD,
58, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.

THEATRES WANTED.

BROMLEY CHALLENOR.
In his Greatest Success,
"THE MAN WHO KNEW THE FUTURE."
A New Phantasy, by Arthur Stanley.
Produced with wonderful success at Brighton and Manchester.

"Brighton Standard."—The play itself by Arthur Stanley is a triumph of originality, but Mr. Challenor's achievement naturally dominates, and, indeed, incarnates, the whole play. It appeals to one personally as a masterpiece of capricious, half-humorous, half-serious play.

"Manchester Evening News." — Mr. Arthur Stanley's new play, "The Man Who Knew the Future," had a magnificent send-off last night, and it is safe to say a successful run is assured.

"Manchester Evening Chronicle." — There is no reason why "The Man Who Knew the Future," produced at the Princes Theatre last night, should not achieve considerable success.

"Manchester Guardian." — It is done with much skill and zest. Mr. Bromley Challenor shows a feeling for quiet and intense work, which is not less notable than the confident vein of low comedy in which he is best known.

"Manchester Daily Dispatch." — Mr. Bromley Challenor's hit in new phantasy is delightfully fascinating, and the author, Mr. Arthur Stanley, received a warm greeting.

Previous to Autumn Production in West-End.

WANTED,
July 12,
July 26 (?),
Aug. 2,
onwards.

"WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD."
Unexpectedly vacant July 26 and Aug. 9.

Wire, BROMLEY CHALLENOR, Scala Theatre, London.

WANTED, Theatre for "Tainted Goods," by Clifford Rean. Unexpectedly vacant Monday next; enormous business last week, Princes, Blackburn, refer E. H. Page, Esq. Other vacancies Aug. 2, 9, 23, Sept. 20, and on. Printing ready. Wire for Monday (to precede Leith), PERCY SHAW, T.R., Crook.

WANTED, Theatres for Comedies, &c. GRAFTON AGENCY, 18, Green-st., London, W.C. Wires, Noftnarg. 'Phone, London.

For other Theatres Wanted see Displayed Wanted Section.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."
"THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."

WANTED, experienced Actors for Viturius (Walking Gent.). Must have good appearance, height, and excellent delivery.

Philodemus (Light Comedy).
Melos (Juvenile).
These parts are "doubled," and must be distinct types.

Experienced Actress for Ancaria.
(Carmen type).
Must have good singing voice.

All to rehearse July 26. Open Aug. 2.

Address, with full particulars, recent photos., latest references, height, and age, WILLIAM MACLAREN, Clarence Villa, Waterloo-road, Llandrindod Wells.

WANTED, for tour, Leading Man, young, tall, good voice and appearance; rehearse next week. Age, height, salary required. Photo. and references all essential. Letters only. A. MULLORD, 163, Balham-hill, S.W. 12.

WANTED, A1 Pianist-Entertainer; also smart Soubrette; at once. Others write. STREAM 142, Hilltown, Dundee.

WANTED, for "The Quaker Girl," tall, fair, good-looking girl for the Princess; open shortly; must have really excellent soprano voice. Photos. (essential), refs., and lowest terms for long tour. VYVIAN THOMAS, 2, St. Ann's-place, New King-street, Bath.

WANTED, first-class Comedian and Lady for Heavies, to artists who will make themselves comfortable, long engagement. Apply, DENVILLE, Marlboro' House, Oldham.

WANTED, really good Character Actor; capable of heavies. Photos., full particulars, WILL CASBY, Elephant and Castle Theatre, London.

WANTED, Cinema Artists, all lines, for important British productions; photos. essential. SIDNEY JAY'S AGENCY, 205, Oxford-street, W. 1. 'Phone, Museum 4329.

WANTED, CINEMA ARTISTS FOR PARTS AND CROWD. PHOTOS. ESSENTIAL. ARTISTS KNOWN TO US KINDLY NOTIFY CHANGE OF ADDRESS. FLETCHER LEON, LTD., 38, GT. ORMOND-STREET, W.C. 1. TELE., HOLBORN 864.

WANTED, an Artist to teach Cinema Acting; one who has influence preferred, and who could proiduce if necessary; references required. Box 449, "The Era."

WANTED, at once, Ballet Dancers and Pantomimists, Ladies and Gents. Photo, age and height, to Box 460, "The Era."

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, engagement by Ballerine as Principal Dancer. E. R. G., Poste Restante, Mont Blanc, Geneva.

AMATEURS, PUPILS, ETC., WANTED.

WANTED, Amateurs, Aspirants; splendid opportunity entering profession. Stamp. Call afternoons, MR. D'ALBERT, 3, Stansfield-road, Stockwell-road, S.W. 9.

WANTED, Beginners, good voices, both sexes; start direct on the stage. Always vacancies when proficient. Stamp. Call, D'ALBERT, above.

WANTED, ladies, gentlemen, possessing any ability; halls, theatres, concerts. 200 successful clients appearing. 25 years' reputation. Stamp. Call, D'ALBERT, above.

WANTED, Beginners, with good voices (female impersonators a speciality). BRUCE GIBBON, composer, voice trainer, and coaching master, has appeared with his pupils before Royalty. Studio, New Oxford Street. For terms and testimonials apply 15, Sidney Road, Bowes Park, N.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Gentleman as Assistant Business Manager for few weeks. Full particulars (letters only; no callers). W. V. NORMAN, 28, Red Lion-square, W.C.

EMPIRE, KINGSTON.
WANTED, thoroughly experienced Electrician; able to work bioscope for Gazette. Apply, with lowest terms and references, to GENERAL MANAGER.

WANTED, first-class Master Carpenter, with own tools, for Cinema Studio. Apply, immediately, SAMUEL LEE, West London Cinema and Variety Agency, 21, Denmark-st., London, W.C. 2.

PERCY HUTCHISON COMPANY.
WANTED, Carpenter,
for Autumn Tour.
Apply, ALEXANDER TELFORD, 58, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.

WANTED, smart young Circus Bill poster. State age, weight, height, salary to FRED LEWIS, c/o Post Office Portrush.

WANTED, Single Man for Baggage, Look after Props, and Play Small Part in Show. State age, wages, height, open soon as possible. Write, REG. HARRIS, Ten Loonies Co., June 21, Hip., Belfast. June 28, Hip., Dublin.

WANTED, Woman Dresser and Ladies' Attendant; able to needlework; 7 weeks, London district. Refs., full pars. letters only; no callers). W. V. NORMAN, 90, Mayfield-road, Dalston.

WANTED Known, thoroughly experienced Business Manager, disengaged shortly; none but first-class offers entertained. Apply, in first instance, Box 413, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt. by reliable Scenic Artist; contracts; own studio, London; late of Stoll Theatres; sober and quick worker; touching-up, &c.; terms moderate; Theatres attended, London or Provinces. D. B., 85, Brandon-st., London, S.E. 17.

WANTED Known, C. TERRETT, Advance Agent, at liberty. Wire, 7, Mansel-st., Port Talbot.

WANTED Known the smartest, lightest Drums, Pedals, Tom-Toms, &c., for Jazz or full orchestra; best workmanship; lowest prices. Photos and latest list on receipt of p.c. C. BOYLE, Drummers' Supplies, 10, Great Newport-street, W.C. 2.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, good Composer, who can place songs, collaborate with known versatile writer; first-class work only. Letters, Box 453, "The Era."

WANTED, for Seaside, following Musicians, for theatrical work:—M. D. (Violin), Leader, 'Cello, Clarinet. Full particulars, terms, and references, to MANAGER, Box 459, "The Era."

WANTED, for Palace Theatre, Doncaster, M.D., Solo Cornet, and 'Cello, to open Monday, June 28. Apply, T. STEVENS, Musical Advisor, Palace Theatre, Grimsby.

WANTED, Musical Director (Violinist) for full Variety Theatre in North; Variety experience essential.
References and terms, Box 477, "The Era."

WANTED, Mus. Director (piano), variety and pictures, twice nightly, 1 matinée; permanent engagement for first-class musician. Terms and refs., GEO. CASEY, Grand Cinema, Basingstoke.

WANTED, really first-class Double Bass Player for cinema in Holloway district. State all particulars, experience, and lowest terms for afternoons, evenings, and Sundays. Letters only. MURRAY, 32, North-villas, Camden-square, N.W.

WANTED, Bass Player, who can play Bombardon or 'Cello; must be good. References to HORACE TEAGUE, M. D., Opera House, Cheltenham.

WANTED, first-class Repetiteur, capable of leading band of 20 when required. Also good 'Cellist, A.M.U.; to open Monday, June 28. J. WHITELOCK, Musical Adviser, Hippodrome, Birkenhead.

SUPER KINEMA.
(MIDLANDS.)
WANTED, to complete Orchestra, First Violin (Repet.), Solo 'Cello, Bass, Bassoon, Horn, Solo Cornet, Orchestral Pianist (flat pitch); 4½ hours' playing per day; no Sundays; permanency; only first-class performers thoroughly acquainted with the big works need apply. Full particulars, age, salary, MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Box 455, "The Era."

PALLADIUM, BRIXTON.
WANTED, Repetiteur.
Call, Wednesday or Thursday, between 11-12, MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

WANTED, Leader-Violin and Rep. for N. London Cinema, open June 26; 6 or 7 days; also Piano, Violin, and 'Cello, for café at Grimsby, and Leader Violin for Colchester; must all be used to best-class music. Call, BRITANNIA THEATRE, Hoxton. 'Phone: London Wall 6848, or write, E. J. PARKER, 9, Duckett-rd., Finsbury Park, N. 4.

WANTED, first-class Leader-Violin, Sub-Leader, 'Cellist, two Pianists, and Organist; good terms for the right players. Apply, 12 to 1, GRAY, 12, Archer-street, Piccadilly, W.

WANTED, Leader for Edmonton; good salary; evenings. Apply immediately, ABBOTT'S, 47, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Leader, till Oct. 2; also Flute, Clarinet, Aug. 2 to Sept. 18; used to Mus. Com. Full partics. and refs., SHEPHARD, Grand T., Llandudno.

WANTED, Leader, fit pictures; own library; and Orchestral Pianiste; evenings only; B. and S.E. district. Apply, M. D., 32, Vartry-road, Stamford Hill, N. 15.

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MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Deputy first-class Leader for one week; commence June 28 or July 5. Salary £7. M. D., Grand Cinema, Reading.

WANTED, first-class Leader, capable of taking the seat; A.M.U. terms, £3 12s. To open July 5. J. WHITELOCK, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED, for the OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST, First Violin, Flautist, and Oboeist, to open June 28; A.M.U. terms. References to WARDEN (temporary address), "Barrymore," Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex.

WANTED, First Violin, 'Cellist, Bass, and Clarinet; required immediately. Also Relief Pianist; must be first-rate performers or useless; no Sunday work. Apply to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Royalty Kinema, Richmond, S.W.

WANTED, first-class First Violin, also Oboist, to augment; commence Saturday, July 3 next, Grand Pier Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare; 3 times daily, twice Sundays; other instruments may write; must be good players or useless. Terms, JOHN H. RUSSELL, as above. Other engagements if satisfactory.

WANTED, Violinist (male or female), able to lead; strong tone essential; terms £4; permanency. Apply, MUSICAL DIRECTRESS, Ramsgate Picture House.

WANTED, good Violinist, gent., also Pianist, lady, for high-class trio. Apply, MUS. DIR., Palais De Luxe, Gt. Windmill-street, Piccadilly-circus.

WANTED, Violin, 'Cello, Double Bass, Drums, for staff band; permanency in York; ex-bandsmen only; married quarters; first-class pay; previous service counts; outside engagements. Particulars from SGT. SWALES, Depot West Yorks, York. Stamped addressed envelope.

WANTED, Violinist, for July and Aug., to play four hours daily in Hotel Lounge.

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Quote lowest terms to PROPRIETRESS, Salcombe Hotel. Salcombe, S. Devon.

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EASTBOURNE. WANTED, to open July 5, First-class Violinist for Trio; permanent and comfortable Engt. Full particulars, with salary required, to MANAGER, Central Cinema, Eastbourne.

WANTED, good Violinist, lady or gent., for seaside town. Apply, MADAME WALTER, 3, Macclesfield-st., Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

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WANTED, good Solo Cornet, who can combine 'Cello, at a café; A.M.U. References to HORACE TEAGUE, M. D., Opera House, Cheltenham.

WANTED, for "The Musical Longshoreman," Second Cornet and Euphonium, to open end of July; both must play trombone; those been with me before, or having experience similar shows, write, particulars and terms, JIMMY DERWOOD, this, Hippo., Preston. Next, Grand, Bolton.

WANTED, Cornettist, capable of solo, for Musical Act; double-handed preferred. Terms and photo., GILPIN, 20, Swainson-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, first-class Cornettist, for variety and pictures; open Monday next; permanency to suitable man; A.M.U. terms. Apply, MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Pavilion, Barnsley.

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WANTED, Clarinet, for cinema, S.E. district. A. E. ELMWOOD, Atkins-road, Clapham Park, S.W. 12. 'Phone, Streatham 950.

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WANTED, Lady 'Cellist; hotel; 30 miles from London; Monday next. WINIFRED DONALD, 34, Oxford-street, W. 1.

WANTED, 'Cellist, for high-class Pictures; capable, experienced players only write; must be good worker; twice daily, 6 days; opening date by arrangement; comfitble. engt.; aft. off weekly. State when vacant. Terms, age, exp., and full pars. to PHILLIP JACOBS, Tower Cinema, Leeds.

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WANTED, 'Cello and Flute, to open immediately, Chatham Empire. Apply, stating references and experience, to D., Stoll Offices, Coliseum Buildings, W.C. 2.

WANTED, 'Cellist, to deputise at a West-End Cinema for fortnight, commencing July 5; no Sundays. State terms, &c., Box 446, "The Era."

WANTED, at once, good 'Cellist; 6 evenings, three matinées; A.M.U. terms. W. PRICE, M. D., Kinema, Broadway, Peterborough.

WANTED, first-class 'Cellist, for cinema, Midlands; fine tone and technique; 6 days, 42 hours; permanency; £5 per week; good prospects. Refs., age, to Box 486, "The Era."

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WANTED IMMEDIATELY, 'Cellist (gentleman); must have strong and refined tone; evenings only; also Clarinet Player. Apply, after 6 p.m., Coliseum, 31, Stoke Newington-road.

WANTED, 'Cello (gentleman); once nightly; permanency. Age, terms, and refs. to F. MAYO, M. D., Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

WANTED, 'Cellist for Cinema, no Sunday work; also Leader-Violinist. Apply, with instrument, Thursday and Friday, between 11 and 1 o'clock, "CAICEDO," Empress Cinema, Upper-st., Islington, N. (No letters.)

NEW THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE. WANTED, good Viola and Bass, to commence season, Aug. 2; permanent if suitable. Salary, age, and refs. to CONDUCTOR, 33, Glessin-road, Cambridge.

WANTED, for Wellington Pier, Flute and Piccolo, Horn, and Bassoon, Military Band. Also 'Cello and Bass for orchestra. Must be good readers. Apply to R. HUNN, Mus. Bac., 14, Regent-road, Gt. Yarmouth.

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WANTED at once for Military Band, Flute, Piccolo, E Flat Clarionet; hours, 7.30 to 10.30 p.m., and 3 to 5 and 8 to 10 on Sundays. Apply, W. F. HULLEY, Mus. Dir., Britannia Pier, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, Flute and 'Cello (ladies), for seaside engagement, to open on July 5; time of playing, 11 to 1, and evening, 7 to 9 o'clock; no Sunday work. Send lowest terms and refs. to CONDUCTOR, 35, Clifton-gardens, Maida Vale, London, W. 'Phone, Pad. 1471.

WANTED, Orch. Organist (reed). Call to-day or Thursday at 1 p.m. Athenæum, Muswell Hill, N. 10.

WANTED, immediately, Relief Pianiste for cinema; must be well experienced. Apply for audition any morning. 123, Sandringham-road, Dalston, N.E.

WANTED, Organist (American); 3 evenings, 6.30; read 'cello parts. 111, Arlington-road, Camden Town, 11-1.

WANTED, good Organist-Pianist, for tour. Lady Leader, for London. LONDON & PROV. MUS. AGENCY, 26a, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Relief Pianist, for pictures; Tottenham. Lowest salary, Box 492, "The Era."

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WANTED, First-class Drummer, once nightly; permanency. Age, terms, and refs. to F. MAYO, M.D., Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Drummer and Tympanist; permanent, comfortable engagement. State if double-handed. References to HORACE TEAGUE, Musical Director, Opera House, Cheltenham.

WANTED, for first-class (No. 1) variety hall in Yorkshire, experienced and thoroughly competent Drummer; also Trombonist. Write, enclosing copies of references, &c., to Box 489, "The Era."

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WANTED, Engt., by Double Bass, exp. any bus.; in or near London. BASSO, 28, Honley-rd., Catford, London.

WANTED, engagement, Double Bass (lady); experienced; any business. Wire, BASS, Post Office, Writtle, Chelmsford.

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WANTED, by good Double Bass, thoroughly experienced. Deputising for Fortnight, London or Seaside. Box 481, "The Era."

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WANTED Known, Trombonist, at liberty, Seaside or Permanent (recommendations from prominent conductors). Write or wire, Box 464, "The Era."

WANTED, by Trombonist, summer engt.; theatre closed; at lib. June 28; ex. refs. Offers first letter, 8, Giles-street, Longsight, Manchester.

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'ROMANCE OF CHALVEDUNE.'

In the little village of Chaldon, on the Surrey Downs, was produced, on Saturday last, a play written by Mrs. Gertrude Thomas, embodying many historical local events and which delighted the audience by the interest of the story, the brightness of the costumes and the excellence of the acting.

Aelfric, the son of the deposed Saxon Lord of the Manor, is in love with Bertille, the only daughter of Sir Richard de Covert, the Norman Lord of the Manor. Aelfric, an artist having undertaken to design an arras, depicts Sir Richard as a grovelling Turk: consequently he is sent to be a slave in the Merstham Quarries, whence he escapes and becomes a Crusader. He has the good fortune to save the life of Eustace de Covert, Sir Richard's only son. He returns to Chaldon disguised as an itinerant artist, but is recognised, and is only saved from death by the timely arrival of Eustace, who discovers that he is Robin, the Saxon, who saved him from the Saracen. The play ends with a general reconciliation.

All the parts were taken by the villagers and residents of the district.

As Sir Richard de Covert, Mr. Desprez did well, and Miss Desprez made a sweet and engaging Bertille. The humours of Tollsworth Fair were quaintly interpreted by Mr. Clarke, as Dick, and Mr. J. Shapland, as Pinian. Mr. Cyril Stanway, as the Minstrel, had to respond to vigorous encores for his songs. Other parts were sustained by Messrs. Howard Swann, A. L. Vickridge, R. Wigg, Miss Jean Wyatt, Miss Mary Wyatt, Miss Stella Watson, Mrs. H. Swann and Miss V. Wigg.

A chalk-pit, near Chaldon Church, made an ideal outdoor theatre, and the production was favoured with perfect weather.

STUDENTS' DRAMATIC PERFORMANCES.

"The Blue Stockings," Mesley Down and Henry Seton's version of "Les Femmes Savantes," was given last Wednesday and Thursday by the Royal Academy of Music dramatic students in the Duke's Hall. The light-hearted relish that went into the playing made the performances quite enjoyable. One and all concerned caught the spirit of the satire, and delivered the always apt and often clever "adaptations" of Molière with the requisite point and humour, and, be it added, with a commendable care for the niceties of diction, accentuation, and the cadence of the phrase. Mr. Acton Bond's forces are so numerous that each night saw an almost complete change of cast. On Thursday the trio of soulful and intense ladies were played respectively by Miss Dorothy S. Hill, whose sonorous vowels were a pleasing feature of her—or, rather, of Philamente's—speech; Miss Dorothy Sanders, sufficiently coquettish, but, perhaps, a thought too consciously humorsome, as the platonically amorous Belise; and Miss Muriel V. Knott, very spirited as the scornful Armande. Miss Fédora Turnbull played very naturally and intelligently as the common-sensible Henriette, and Miss Gladys Rolfe made a pleasing and personable lover of Clytandre. The wrangle between "poets" Vadius and Trissotin, impersonated by Mr. Douglas Pack and Miss Isobel McLaren, roused much laughter; and so did the efforts of Philamente's much worse half, Chrysale, to assert his authority as husband and parent, as set forth by Mr. Frank Nathan. There was good low-comedy promise in Miss Helena Kalker's Martine. Miss Aileen Mathews as Uncle Ariste, Miss Marie Williams as the Servant, and Miss Esther Landau's Page were all well in the picture.

An eighteenth-century period curtain-raiser, "At the White Horse Inn," by Ada Leonora Harris, brought on Mr. Roy Russell as a titled wooer masquerading as a highwayman (with song, expressly composed by Mr. Arthur Sandford), in order to gain his lady's favour, Miss Valerie Hovenden, who bore herself with grace as that lady, Mr. William Jupe, with ripe country accent, as the Landlord, and Miss Marie Williams, as Betty, the tactful maid.

Mr. Reginald Paul and Mr. Rae Robertson were the dispensers of the evening's music: pianoforte duets, which made the waiting in between the scenes pass very pleasantly.

A "SCHOOL" PASTORAL

A pastoral version of "School" was given on Tuesday afternoon, June 15, under the direction of Mr. Clive Currie, in the grounds of "Normanhurst," Brockley (kindly lent by Dr. Drake). The weather conditions were perfect, and the attendance good. The proceeds have been handed to the "Save the Children" Fund. The chief acting honours of the afternoon went to Miss Dora Gregory, an admirable Mrs. Sutcliffe, and to Misses Ethel Oliver and Jill Blair, the former a charming and demure Bella and the latter a sprightly and handsome Naomi. The male roles were in the capable hands of Messrs. H. V. Tollemache, Lionel Leonard, Frank Woodbridge, Ralph Leddra, W. V. Tobias, and William Cluff. The last-named provided a finished study of the crafty and designing Krux, and the bevy of pretty schoolgirls gave excellent support.

THE KENNINGTON.

"Il Trovatore" was presented at the Kennington Theatre on Monday night by the Allington Charsley Opera Company. The character of Azucena was played by Miss Ethel Dennis, a fine dramatic contralto whose singing and acting was rewarded by enthusiastic applause. Miss Anna Lindsey sang the music of Leonora brilliantly, and also proved to be a capable actress. Mr. Cynlais Gibbs sang effectively as Maurice, and Mr. Walter Barrett, as the Count of Lima, was in excellent voice. Mr. Sydney Clifford was very good as Ferrando, and a competent chorus and augmented orchestra did full justice to Verdi's music. The company remains here for the week, appearing in other popular operas.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

The Charles Lucas prize, in connection with the Royal Academy of Music, has been awarded to Paul Kerby. The Piatti prize to Frank Leonard, G. M. Jeffreys being highly commended, and Kathleen M. Hill commended. The Matthew Phillimore prize to Rae Robertson, Reginald Paul being highly commended. The Philip Li Agnew Composition prize to Herbert Haworth, Alan D. Bush being highly commended; and the Joseph Maas prize to Albert Digney, Francis B. Duncan and J. H. Heywood being commended.

COVENT GARDEN OPERA.

PUCCINI'S "IL TRITTICO."

Three one-act operas in Italian, "Il Tabarro" (libretto by Giuseppe Adami), "Suor Angelica" (libretto by Gioachino Forzano), and "Gianni Schicchi" (libretto by Forano, music by Giacomo Puccini), produced for the first time in England at Covent Garden on Friday, June 18.

Puccini's three new one-act operas, under the collective title of "Il Trittico," were produced at Covent Garden on Friday night. In them the famous composer shows that he still holds his own, and there was no mistaking the genuine ring in the approval with which the public received them. The operas make up a bill as full of contrasts as a revue. It might, in fact, be described as a revue of human passions sustained at white heat in temperaments of unusual emotional capacity. "Il Tabarro" is a lurid story of the illicit love and marital jealousy ending in murder. "Suor Angelica" takes as theme the adoration of a mother, for the love-child of whom she has been deprived. Her grief at his death drives her to suicide. "Gianni Schicchi" lays bare the meannesses of avaricious human nature—and does it in most entertaining fashion. The music reveals a Puccini, who is the same, and yet not the same. There is the old prodigality of melody but with a new refinement and reticence, and much greater skill in characterisation. He dives deeper into psycological depths. His orchestration is masterly in its creation of "atmosphere," whether he paints in sombre colours the toilers' rebellions and resentments, as in "Il Tabarro," or, at the opposite pole, wittily depicts the artful Schicchi or reveals the very mixed quality of dead Buoso's relatives' lamentations.

"IL TABARRO" (THE CLOAK).

Adami's libretto is based on Didier Gold's "La Houppelande." Giorgetta, the young wife of an elderly skipper of a barge—hown lying off a wharf in the Seine—has a lover in Longshoreman Luigi. She repulses her husband when he begs her to nestle once more beside him under the cloak when the day's work is done. Left to himself in the darkness, Michele lights a consolatory pipe. The striking of a match is a preconcerted signal between Luigi and Giorgetta. The lover steals on board, and the husband throttles a confession out of him. And when the remorseful wife comes asking for forgiveness he throws the dead body, hidden away under the cloak, at her feet. Lively incidents lighten the tragedy, such as the old, hurdy-gurdy grinder's playing of untuneful tunes—a delightful musical joke—the singing of a street music-hawker, who quotes the Puccini of "Bohème," and the advent of a discursive rag-picker. The finest thing in the opera is Michele's invocation to the river. It is intensely dramatic and works up to a powerful and impressive climax. It was magnificently sung by Mr. Dinh Gilly, who was at his best in the part. Mme. Ida Qualatti as the wife, Mr. Thomas Burke realistic as Luigi, Mme. Bérat clever in La Frugola's song, Mr. Cotreuil and Mr. Cilla both very "human" as an old and a young labourer, and Miss Doris Lemon and Mr. Maurice Oger as lovers who wander by, were all effective.

"SUOR ANGELICA."

The scene (by Oliver Bernard, like those of the other operas) is a beautiful reproduction of the cloisters of the Church of Santa Maria, at Cellole, near Siena. The action is laid in the seventeenth century. In this work Puccini has been able to turn to effective account the contrast between the religious motives, the little events of convent life, the nuns' gossip, and the agony and longing of the mother whose "sin" led to her taking the veil. Sister Angelica is the convent herbalist, and she distils her poison cup from her flowers. Then, realising that she is dying in sin, she prays for pardon, and in answer there appears in the open church door a vision of the Madonna bending over the dead child. (The difficult lighting here was well managed.) Once more Mme. Dalla Rizza, in the name part which she created in Florence) showed herself a clever and convincing actress and singer. As Angelica's Princess aunt, a sort of dragon guardian of the family honour, Mme. Jacqueline Royer, a fine mezzo-soprano, sang splendidly and looked most imposing in the hooped and panniered seventeenth-century dress. Both Miss Juliette Autran and Miss Madeline Collins did well in their solos, and got a sense of atmosphere into their playing.

"GIANNI SCHICCHI."

The last is the best of the three—in fact, a capo lavoro—an operatic masterpiece of the first order. It is Puccini's first comic work, and seeing the extraordinary success he has made of this venture it should not be his last. The libretto is based on lines in Dante's "Purgatorio," and in contemporary writings, which would seem to show that Schicchi was a real personage. Whether or no, Puccini, Forzano, and Badini (who played him on Friday) have made a flesh and blood creation as Falstaff—a Florentine "type," a mixture of malice, cunning, shrewdness, and jocularity, and likeable withal. The scene shows a thirteenth century bed-chamber, wherein Buoso Donati lies dead. His relatives alternately mourn him and cite his virtues until they find that his will leaves everything to the friars. They send for Gianni Schicchi, the man of resource. He personates the corpse, and as a moribund makes the will afresh, bequeathing the house and all the other valuable property—to himself. The Notary safely gone, he chases the furious but impotent relatives off the premises—his premises. Coming back victorious, cudgel in hand, he finds his now well-dowered daughter with her lover, and, turning to the audience, asks them whether Donah's money could have been better bestowed. The cast was excellent. Mr. Badini's Schicchi is great—finely sung and finely acted. As the daughter, Mme. Dalla Rizza was charmingly ingenuous. Mr. Burke sang the lover, Rinuccio's fine solo superbly, and there was capital work from all the rest. Even the Russian Ballet do not give us more expressive dumb-play than the will-reading. Mme. Bérat's pushful aunt, Mr. Cotreuil's decrepit cousin, Mr. Malatesta's self-satisfied doctor, Mr. William Michael's hungry "poor relation"—all were delightful. Mr. Bavagnoli, who conducted all three operas, carried the whole performance through with triumphant success. There was great enthusiasm, and Puccini, recalled over and over again, appeared, together with the librettist and the conductor, on the stage at each curtain.

A TALK WITH PUCCINI.

WORLD'S MOST POPULAR OPERA COMPOSER.

Puccini, seen a few hours after the Covent Garden production of his tri-opera bill, declared himself as completely contented with his success. "It was all very gratifying," he said. He had never felt himself more at one with the London public, who had at once taken to their hearts operas more difficult to grasp at a first hearing than any he had hitherto given them. Then, the management of Covent Garden had really surpassed themselves in the way of mounting and so forth, and, finally, there had been the fortunate circumstance that Bavagnoli was here to rehearse and conduct.

The Maestro was asked how it felt to be the world's most popular opera composer. He smiled enigmatically. (Perhaps the question was indiscreet.) From his answer (also a trifle enigmatic) one made out that the satisfactions were many, but ——! There was a but—several of them. There were the anxieties

GIACOMO PUCCINI.

preceding first performances, the doubts and occasional "melancholies" every sincere artist has to feel; and then, disturbing for a man of simple tasks and quiet life (Puccini, when at home, lives in a country village in Tuscany), there are the periodical enforced journeys, the sojourns in hotels, the calls of "society"; in short, a complete derangement of the usual state of things. Still, there are compensations. And on the return homewards, when one, travelling down the coast, has passed Spezia—"ah! then one breathes; and is thankful!"

Puccini's "Methods."

The talk turned to "Gianni Schicchi," the third of the operatic trio. Was it Puccini's intention, having, like Verdi and Wagner, turned to comedy after so many tragedies, to follow on with other humorous works? The reply was that Puccini has marked out no restricted field for his future activities. He had an open mind for any subject that came along, as long as it was something striking—vivo—with life in it. He must be "seized with it" before he could begin to work on the music. One suggested that since he had given us a "Suor Angelica," with a scene in a convent, he might provide a companion opera showing us life in a monastery. Boccaccio might furnish him with a score of plots? The Maestro waxed emphatic. He never searched here and there for plots—that was not his way; he waited until they "came" to him. For instance, he had nursed the idea of a triple bill for many years, and had considered and rejected ever so many suggestions. The idea at the outset had been a trio of subjects from Gorki. But the Russian writer's works were all too much in the same vein. Vivid contrasts were wanted. At last he fixed on Didier Gold's tragic story for the first. Then Forzano (to whose abilities the Maestro paid tribute) came along with the convent story, and its mystical-idyllic character pleased Puccini. Finally, reading Dante, in the thirteenth Canto of the "Inferno" he came upon the lines:—

"Falsificò in sè Buoso Donati,
Testando e dando al testamento norma."

And he was suddenly struck with the dramatic possibilities in rascal Schicchi's trick. He and Forzano (who fortunately happened in at that moment to assist in the interview) worked out the idea together. And so was found the third subject, and the necessary leaven of humour.

Future Projects.

As to Puccini's next work? Well, he has all sorts of ideas. He very much wants to write a Chinese opera—something "bizarre" and original. But up to now no suitable plot has turned up. Belasco's drama, "Son-Daughter," might do; but, as with "Madam Butterfly" and "The Girl of the Golden West," he must first see the play on the stage. And he has not the smallest intention to journey to America for that purpose. The English subject that had been talked about, "Sir Christopher Sly"? That, too, was very much "in the air" at present. Nothing was decided. For the moment the Maestro found himself "out of work"—an uncomfortable state to be in, because, in his own words, when one is not working, "si annoia" (one bores oneself).

A NEW TOSCA.

The new Tosca, who made her début at Covent Garden on Saturday night, Mme. Tina Poli-Randaccio, has a big, powerful dramatic soprano, warm and rich-coloured. She does not aim at delicate nuances in her singing, and one rather missed the womanly softnesses in the love scene with Cavaradossi. On the other hand, her broad effects are gained with ease and security, and she is able to do full justice to the dramatic passages. She has a commanding presence, and is a capable actress, with plenty of fire and passion in her composition. She had a big success with the public. Mr. Ansseau, this season's only Cavaradossi, was in great form. It was a good performance, altogether, with Mr. Magenenat's forceful Scarpia, Mr. Malatesta's amusing Sagrestano, and Mr. Bavagnoli's masterly conducting as its other most notable features.

THE HANDEL FESTIVAL.

Music Revival at Crystal Palace.

After an interval of eight years the Handel Festival, which has never failed in its appeal to the British public, takes place at the demobilised Crystal Palace this week. The last Festival was held there in 1912, and the usual Triennal Festival was being arranged for 1915, but was stopped by the war. That Handel and his music are still popular with choral and orchestral societies is amply demonstrated by the present performance; 2,500 choral singers from London and neighbourhood being reinforced by 1,000 from the famous North of England choirs. The 500 instrumentalists include the London Symphony Orchestra as Solo Band, making a total of 4,000 performers, under the conductorship of Sir Frederic Cowen, who occupies this honoured position for the fifth time. Mr. Walter Hedgecock is again the musical director and organist. A noteworthy feature about the present celebration lies in the fact that the Continental pitch is being used for the first time at these performances, and the grand organ has been entirely rebuilt and modernised to that end.

The General Rehearsal took place on Saturday last, in the presence of a vast audience, as enthusiastic as it was large. An exceedingly comprehensive programme was arranged, and the spontaneity and ease with which the large body of executants interpreted the choral numbers was most impressive. This was especially noticeable in the choruses "O Father, Whose Almighty Power" and "See the Conquering Hero Comes," from "Judas Maccabaeus." "Fallen is the Foe," from the same oratorio, was not satisfactory to Sir Frederic, who stopped this twice, and began again. The Double Chorus, "Praise the Lord with Harp and Tongue" was given with admirable balance and brilliancy of tone.

With regad to the soloists, Miss Agnes Nicholls gave a beautiful rendering of "Angels Ever Bright and Fair" and the aria, "Light is My Heart." Miss Carrie Tubb was especially succesful in the aria, "From Mighty Kings," and Miss Phyllis Lett's sympathetic contralto voice was heard to advantage in the numbers, "Father of Heaven" and "From Capharsalama" ("Judas Maccabaeus"). Mr. Robert Radford was in good voice with "O Ruddier than the Cherry" and "Arm, Arm, ye Brave." Other soloists were Mr. Walter Hyde and Miss Esta D'Argo. "Judas Maccabaeus" was announced for yesterday, Selection Day is to-morrow (Thursday), and "The Messiah" will be rendered on Saturday afternoon. In addition to those already enumerated, the soloists include Madame Kirkby Lunn, Mr Ben Davies, Mr. Frank Mullings, Mr. Frederick Ranalow, and Mr. Norman Allin. Judged by the enthusiasm displayed at the rehearsal on Saturday last, the success of the festival is assured.

THORA DARSIE AT THE ÆOLIAN HALL.

A dramatic recital of unusual interest was given by Thora Darsie at the Æolian Hall on Tuesday afternoon, the 15th. Possessed of a winning personality and a musical voice, allied to great emotional power and ability, a bright future may be predicted for this clever young artist. An unusually varied repertoire for one so young included Lady Macbeth's sleep-walking scene, which struck quite a vibrant chord of haunting melancholy and unforced pathos, and as the unhappy Constance in Act III. of "King John," the lamentations of the poor distraught mother over the loss of her son were instinct with poignant natural tragedy. The gem of Miss Darsie's contributions, however, was her beautiful rendition of Tennyson's exquisite poem "Ænone," in which the musical cadence of her voice was particularly well suited to the poetic imagery. In the plaintive monotony of the refrain, "Oh, Mother Ida, Hearken e'er I die." Miss Darsie received able support from Miss Katherine Kendall, a violiniste of exceptional ability, whose purity of tone and technique were also agreeably apparent in a dreamy nocturne by Medtner, a highly original "Moto perpetuo," by Frank Bridge, and numerous other compositions, all greatly appreciated by the audience. Miss May Walker proved herself a sympathetic accompanist.

WALTER MARTIN PLAYERS.

The above local dramatic artists, as a wind-up to their performances at Mr. Milton Bode's Royal Opera House, Leicester, produced, on an elaborate scale, C. Haddon Chambers' play, "The Tyranny of Tears." The costumes were charming, and the garden was a real one, flowers and trees being used for the purpose. Mr. Walter Martin undertook the part of Mr. Parbury, and scored a deserved success, his acting throughout being clever and convincing. The Mrs. Parbury of Miss Fanny Lorimer fully deserved the golden opinions which it evoked. Mr. Harry Martin was exceptionally good as George Gunning. Miss Elsie Catton, as Parbury's Secretary, was at all times charming. Mr. Frank Brown made a typical Colonel Armitage. Mr. William Watts deserves much praise as the Butler, Evans, and Miss Evelyn M. Hancock did full justice to the small part of the Servant, Caroline.

So great has been the success attending Mr. Martin's Players' performances during this year that they have been enabled to raise £500 to endow a cot at the Children's Hospital at the Leicester Royal Infirmary, to be called "The Walter Martin Players' Cot." Mr. H. E. Winks, at Friday night's performance, handed over to Mr. Duncan Henderson, the honorary treasurer of the Infirmary, a cheque for £320, for which Mr. Henderson, on behalf of the Governors of the Infirmary, expressed his appreciation.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Happy Returns to—

Lily Brayton—Wednesday, June 23.
Geraldine Ulmar—Wednesday, June 23.
Norman Trevor—Wednesday, June 23.
A. G. Spry—Thursday, June 24.
Percy Hoare—Thursday, June 24.
B. Vivian Reynolds—Thursday, June 24.
Sydney Paxton—Friday, June 25.
May Moore Dupres—Saturday, June 26.
Oscar Asche—Saturday, June 26.
Margaret Cooper—Monday, June 28.
W. Courtleigh—Monday, June 28.
Charles Darrell—Tuesday, June 29.
Etty Boganny—Tuesday, June 29.

'ALADDIN" IN THE LAW COURTS.

DISPUTE ABOUT DRESSES.

In the King's Bench Division on Thursday, Mr. Justice Darling had before him an action brought by Mr. John Brennan Mulholland against Mr. Ernest C. Rolls, claiming money under an agreement concerning the production of the pantomime "Aladdin" at the Kennington Theatre last Christmas season.

Mr. Matthews, K.C., for the plaintiff, said the action was brought on a written agreement for the hire by the plaintiff to the defendant of a complete plant or outfit for the production of the pantomime. It was produced at Wimbledon, 1917-18, and in 1918-19 at Hammersmith. When the defendant took over the scenery and dresses, said counsel, they were almost new. He, however, set up a counter-claim, and alleged that the scenery and dresses were not in first-class condition.

There were ten scenes in the plaintiff's pantomime, while the defendant's pantomime ran into fourteen scenes and required developments. The result was that many of the costumes used by the plaintiff were unfit for the defendant's production.

Mr. Mulholland, giving evidence in support of his counsel's statement, said that under the agreement he was to receive from the defendant £125 a week for the scenery and properties, but the defendant offered him £50 a week for the part he retained, and suggested that the plaintiff should "take a back seat." The scenery was in first-class condition, and it was absolutely untrue that the dresses were dirty. Some of them might have required dry cleaning, but that was all.

Mr. Stevens, assistant manager at the Wimbledon Theatre when "Aladdin" was produced there in 1917, said that when the dresses were returned to him by Mr. Rolls in ebruary, 1920, they were, although badly packed, in a good condition.

Mr. John Hart said that he was a managing director of many theatres, with 30 years' experience. He saw the greater part of the production of "Aladdin" a month ago, and the scenery was fit to be put on the stage at any time.

Mr. H. W. Rowlands gave similar evidence.

Mr. Alfred Charles Taylor, master stage carpenter, said that the production at Wimbledon was beautiful, and at the King's Theatre it was very good.

Mr. Reginald Hunt, a producer of 17 years' experience, and general stage director for Mr. Martin Harvey, said that he produced "Aladdin" at the King's Theatre. The scenery was in good condition.

Mr. F. L. Lyndhurst said that he was a scene painter with 24 years' experience in the larger London theatres. When he saw the scenery in May of this year it was in excellent condition.

Mrs. Mulholland, the wife of the plaintiff, gave evidence of the good condition of the dresses.

Mr. Rolls, in the witness box, said that this was the first time he had been concerned in the production of pantomime. Mr. Mulholland said so much about his scenery and dresses that he thought he was getting properly equal to the Drury Lane standard. Some of the company did refuse to wear the dresses. The painting of the scenery was cheap and gaudy.

Mr. Rolls said that his wife was Miss Jennie Benson.

Mr. Matthews: Your wife's dresses are given to £167 7s.?—That was cheap, as a matter of fact.

Mr. Rolls protested against certain questions put to him in cross-examination with reference to articles Mr. Mulholland said were missing.

"Don't keep calling me a liar, Mr. Matthews," he remarked.

Mr. Justice Darling (to witness): Conduct yourself properly.

Mr. Fred Leslie, comedian, and Mrs. Wright, wardroom mistress for Mr. Rolls, described the dresses as very dirty and unsuitable.

Mr. Tom Drew, who also gave evidence, said that the costumes were shoddy.

Mr. Justice Darling, without calling on Mr. Mulholland's counsel, giving judgment for Mr. Mulholland for £1,256 on his claim, and also judgment for him on the counter-claim with costs, said that Mr. Rolls had not availed himself of the opportunity of seeing these things before he agreed to have them.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

SIR,—With regard to the report of this case, heard yesterday before Mr. Justice Darling, when my client, Mr. Mulholland, obtained a verdict with costs both on the claim and the counter-claim, I wish to point out that while various reports in the Press have given with considerable fullness the very depreciatory evidence given by and on behalf of the defendant, the independent evidence of such witnesses as Mr. John Hart, of the Theatre Royal, Prince's, and Queen's Theatres, Manchester, the Grand Theatre, Leeds, etc., Mr. H. W. Rowland, the general secretary of the Theatrical Managers' Association, Mr. Reginald Hunt, the stage director of Mr. Martin Harvey, and Mr. Lyndhurst, scenic artist, and others, as to the excellent condition of my client's scenery and dresses, has, doubtless through lack of space, been crowded out.

As this is, notwithstanding the verdict, calculated to be very prejudicial to Mr. Mulholland, I shall be obliged by your kind publication of this letter.—Yours, etc.

J. MOVERLEY SHARP,
Solicitor for Mr. Mulholland.

75-77, Shaftesbury-avenue, June 18.

The Gaiety Theatre, Hastings, is closed for alterations, &c., and will reopen on July 5 with "Afgar," the successful musical play from the London Pavilion.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

MARRIAGE.

CAMPBELL-HACKETT.—June 19. Joh. W. ("Doc") Campbell, to Marie Hackett, at the Registry Office, West Derby-road, Liverpool.

ANNIVERSARY OF MARRIAGE.

SHERIDAN.—The tenth anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sheridan, at the Registry Office, Sunderland, June 21, 1910. "Till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance."

IN MEMORIAM.

CARLOS, CLEOPATRA.—In loving memory of our dear sister, Cleopatra Carlos, snake charmer, who died Nov. 20, 1919, at Leobenjan, Java, East Indies. Inserted by her sister and brother-in-law, Bonita and Billy Lee.

THEATRICAL WEDDING AT SCARBOROUGH.

A pretty wedding of special interest to the profession took place at St. Saviour's Church, Scarboro', on Wednesday, the contracting parties being Miss Agnes Jesmond and Mr. James Mather Lindsay. Miss Jesmond is well known as late leading lady with the Maclyn Productions in "Hello, Who Are You?" Chas. Lock's "Motherland" Company, and earlier with Richard Suther's "Merry Geishas."

She was first noticed in "The Era" seven years ago, when she made a successful first appearance at her "Home Town" of Scarboro', at the Aquarium, and since then and up to the present time has worthily sustained her title of "dainty comedienne and dancer."

Mr. Lindsay is a well-known Edinburgh merchant, who took the early call to arms in 1914, serving altogether five years, receiving the Military Medal and other distinctions, notification of them arriving on his wedding day.

The bride was given away by her uncle, Mr. Will Catlin, perhaps better known as the King Pierrot, who resides at Scarboro', where he has extensive theatrical and other interests. A reception, attended by numerous friends, was held at "The Manor Boarding House," after which the happy pair left for the honeymoon, which is being spent in France and Belgium.

Miss Jesmond has decided to give up stage work. Numerous friends both behind and in front will wish her every happiness.

FUNERAL OF MME. REJANE.

In the presence of a large and representative congregation, the first part of the funeral service of Mme. Réjane was held on Friday morning at the Church of St. Honoré d'Eylau, Paris. The chief mourners included M. Jacques Porcel, son of the dead actress, and other relatives. Her daughter was unable to reach Paris in time to be present.

Grieg's "Mort d'Ase" was played on the organ as the coffin was brought into the church, and Stradella's "Pie Jesu," Gounod's "Ego Sum," and other numbers were sung by artists from the Opéra Comique and other theatres.

The interment took place at the cemetery of Passy, situated in the west end of Paris, where addresses were delivered by M. Honnorat, Minister of Public Instruction; M. Robert de Flers, President of the Society of Dramatic Authors; M. Lucien Guitry, on behalf of the Association of Dramatic Artists; and M. Peutat and M. Alphonse Franck, representing the Association of Theatrical Managers.

The Imperial War Relief Fun Committee make a strong appeal on behalf of the unfortunate inhabitants of the war-stricken countries of Europe and Asia now being desolated by famine and disease. The extensive character of the need is evident from the fact that the appeal is being made throughout the Empire. An organisation has been set up in the City of London and in each metropolitan borough, to explain the objects of the appeal and to facilitate the collection of funds and gifts in kind.

AT THE DRESSING TABLE.

BY MIMOSA.

How Millicent Cheated Father Time.

I hadn't seen Millicent for over three years when I called on her a few days ago. I knew she had taken up munition work at the beginning of the war, and from what I had heard of her from time to time, hard work, early rising, and late to bed. I quite expected to find her looking older and very much the worse for her three years' work. But far from looking jaded and tired, I found her younger and fresher than when I had last seen her. Her complexion was smooth and clear, and her hair brighter, and more glossy than before, while the few wrinkles which I remember had entirely disappeared.

How She Preserved Her Complexion.

After a little persuasion she told me the secret of how she had not only kept, but improved, her looks during the three years in which we had not met, in spite of her hard work and late hours.

She told me she owed the freshness of her complexion to the regular use every night of a little plain mercolised wax. This she rubbed gently into the face and neck, leaving it on all night, and washing it off in the morning with warm water. She had entirely given up the use of powder, which she told me she felt sure caused wrinkles, and was using instead a lotion made by mixing an ounce of cleminite in about two ounces of water. This lotion gives a most natural appearance, and is beneficial to the skin, and judging by her complexion I can well believe it.

Removing the Wrinkles.

When I asked what she had done to remove the little wrinkles which I remembered round her eyes and mouth, she told me nothing. The use of the mercolised wax had done the trick without any effort on her part. This wax, it seems, gently peels off all the dead outer skin, slowly and imperceptibly while one sleeps, and with the dead skin, all lines and wrinkles, leaving the fresh young complexion beneath clear and smooth.

A Slight Growth of Superfluous Hair.

There was another point upon which I was very curious. Millicent used to have a slight growth of hair on her upper lip, which I am forced to admit, entirely spoilt her claims to being considered a pretty girl, and this, too, had entirely disappeared, owing to the use she told me of a little powdered pheminol. After two applications, she said, all traces of the growth had disappeared, but as a precaution she had used some lekko paste for a couple of weeks afterwards.

How She Kept Her Hair Bright and Glossy.

To keep her hair in good condition she had shampooed it regularly every fortnight with a dessert spoonful of stallax dissolved in hot water, then dried it without rinsing (as this is not necessary when using stallax) and given it a good brushing. Every month she gave it a stimulant in the form of a simple tonic. For one week in every four she massaged into the roots every night a tonic made by mixing an ounce of boranium with four ounces of Bay Rum or Eau de Cologne.

A Perfectly Natural Colour.

Millicent had always been naturally pale, and I remarked on the pretty flush which had come into her cheeks. This she confessed was not natural (although it had deceived even an expert like myself), but was brought about by using a little pure coltiandum, which she applied to her cheeks with a piece of cotton wool. The beauty of this colour was, that it appeared absolutely natural, for it deepened as the atmosphere became warmer, just as a natural colour would.

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NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, JUNE 28, 1920.

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and others, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to any inaccuracies or changes which may be made in the calls.

BILL MATTER FOR JULY 19 NOW DUE.

BARNEY ARMSTRONG CIRCUIT.

BELFAST EMPIRE.—Brandons, Manuel and Francois, Will Hay, Knox and Keith, and company as booked.

DUBLIN EMPIRE.—Pal Myra Goss Trio, Three Laurels, Carton, Andrews and Wray, Leo Nino, and company as booked.

EDINBURGH THEATRE ROYAL. — Leonard Laurence Company.

HARRY DAWN CIRCUIT.

EDMONTON EMPIRE.—Oswald Cray's drama, "The Divorce Question." Rehearsal 1; 16 band parts required.

MILE END EMPIRE.—Miles Stavordale Quartette, The De Haven Quartette, and company as booked. Rehearsal, 1.

RAMSGATE PAVILION. — My Fancy Songsters, Marcella Lavine, Chas. Hersee, Harry Fairman, Rowland Hill, Ethel Dunford, Evie Lawrence, Sam Rogers and his Band, also Kathleen Fryer and her Orchestra.

BOSTOCK TOUR.

BLANTYRE PICTURE HOUSE (rehearsal, 5.30).—Gordon Brown.

HAMILTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—W. V. Garrod presents "One Law for Both."

IPSWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Percy Leonard presents "The Red Heads," Ralph Howard, George Bowden.

NORWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Vincent Lawson and Grace Russell in "The Bridal Suite," the Levaines, Scott Argyll, Texas Two, Lyons and Fay, Hartley Wonders.

NORWICH THEATRE ROYAL. — G. Carlton Wallace's Repertory Co.

PAISLEY RINK PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—The Whitbys, Nan Campbell, Two Tommies.

RAYMOND Present Prestidigitateur.

PAISLEY THEATRE. — Company as booked.

KENNEDY CIRCUIT.

CANNOCK HIPPODROME.—"Hooray! We're Here."

WEST BROMWICH OLYMPIA. — Harry Firth, "Oh, So Dainty."

WEST BROMWICH THEATRE ROYAL.—Wagner and Shardon's Rep. Co.

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

(See page 23).

LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES.

CAMBERWELL PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—Marie Lloyd, Frank Whitman, Dave Lee, Sadler, Elsie Estelle, Ernie Whitmee and Partner, Mary Anne Clark.

CLAPHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 4). — Albert Chevalier, Daisy James, Nixon Grey, Nellie Wigley, Arthur Gilroy, Maggie Carr, Baisden, Deldees, Dan Leno, Junr.

COLLINS'S MUSIC HALL (rehearsal, 4).—James Jewell and Co., Garadini, Wyn and Ivy, Dolly and Albert Pearce, Gloria D'Arcy, Alfred Brooks, Paul Thompson, Phil and Phlora.

CROYDON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Harry Champion, Terry's Juveniles, Horace Jones and Partner, Anna Dorothy, Scott Gibson, Morgan and Burke, Romani, Alexandre, Nelson and Nelson.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE (rehearsal, 4).—Derra De Marods, Mayne and Sheridan, G. S. Melvin, Daisy Stratton, Pall Malls, Four K. Foleys.

HOLBORN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Harry Weldon, Daisy Jerome, Johnson Clark, Jock Whiteford, Seebold and Mallory, Varney and Butt, Lawson and Cross, Frank Benson, Four Richards.

ILFORD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).

RAYMOND Some Sorcerer.

—Waller and Bennett present "As You Were."

ISLINGTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Nixon Grey, D'Alma, Jas Hunter, Keen and Waller, Chas. Stafford and Co.

KILBURN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Harry Day presents "Funbeams."

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Arturo Bernardi, T. E. Finglass, Loch and Lomond, Phil Parsons, Crasy Hicks and Pass, Alice Lakin, Jas. Walmsley, Bros. Bright, Mrs. Clere's Juveniles.

PALLADIUM. — Little Tich, Max Darewski, Versatile Three, Ernest Hastings, Ruth Astor, Haru O'Nuki, Blaney and Farrar, Walter James, Chinko and Kaufman, Spessel Bros. and Mack, Owen McGiveney, Zelda and Freda Jensen.

POPLAR HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Robert Reilly, Goodfellow and Gregson, Harry Hemsley, Jock McKay, Bergonzi, Vine and Brewer, Miller Sutcliffes, Eddy Gray.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Lew Lake presents "A Mother Should Tell."

SHOREDITCH OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 4).—Lew Lake presents Joe Elvin and Co. in "A Sailor Lad."

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Daisy Dormer, Sammy Shields, Albert and Rogers, Tod Slaughter and Co., Marie Denziloe, Cissie Lupino, Syd. Warwick.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Esta Stella, Will Collinson and Co., Jim Nolan, Laurie Devine, Aimee Roberts, Vera and R. Wray.

MACNAGHTEN TOUR.

BLACKBURN.—The Fields, Tom Taylor, Thora, "Australian Entertainers."

BRADFORD.—"A Trip to Paris."

BURNLEY.—Westminster Singers, Ivor Vinlor, Hengler Bros., Marvin and Rhyde, Denby and Dent, Linga Singh.

RAYMOND world Wandering With Witty Wizardisms.

CARLISLE.—Stephanie Anderson, Bob Anderson, Stewart Morton, J. C. Scatter Bros. Lowell, Billy Val and Partner, Tom Payne.

HALIFAX.—The Getaway, Marie Lawton, Cowper Bros. Kisbey, English Ballet, Mart and Pep.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Lew Lake presents "Sons of the Sea."

LEICESTER.—Company as booked.

SOUTHAMPTON. — Grossman and Winters, Ladd West, Stacey and Tinney, Penmans Nibs, Herbert Cave, Billie Reeves, Lest Coenens.

WARRINGTON. — Barton and Ashley, Franco Piper, Lieut. Gordon, Violet Vaughan Trio, Will Gardener, The Goodwyns, Dave Bryant.

Rehearsal at all Halls at 12.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD.

BIRMINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Agnes Croxton, Fred Karno presents "Mumming Birds," Frederick Sylvester and Co., The Fitzroys, 'Erbert, Leslie Elliott.

BIRMINGHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 1).—Albert de Courville's "Same to You."

BIRMINGHAM SUMMERHILL

RAYMOND Wonderful Wizard With Wit.

PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Jack Tarr, Hayes and Jayes, Norman Stanley.

BRADFORD ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12.15).—Scott and Whaley, Havanna Troupe, Carr Lynn, The Villions, Chas. Rich, Sisters Reeve, Dorothy Darlington, and Haddon Squire.

CARDIFF EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Wee Georgie Wood and Co., Femina Quartette, Florrie Forde, Farr and Farland, Manuel Vega, Herbert La Martine, Tom Davies Trio.

CARDIFF OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 11). Baldmaster Morris, Dainty Iris. (Will artists kindly note that the Cardiff Olympia bars the Cardiff Hippodrome, and that no Variety Agent has the sole bookings of the former theatre?)

EDINBURGH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Moss Empires, Ltd., present "Twinkles," Billie and Burke, Alex. Prince, Wal Langtry, Cycling Brunettes.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Harry Day presents "On the Wing."

GATESHEAD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Roxy la Rocca, Thompson and Walker, Flying Banvards, Bartle Quartette, Ross and Dale, Dick Williams, Ray Zack.

GLASGOW COLISEUM (rehearsal, 11).—Percy Honri, Scotch Kelly, McDonald Watson and his Scottish Players, Ancaster, Dale and O'Malley, The Sarattos Troupe.

GLASGOW EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Vernon Watson, Bert Levy, Florence Wray, Peluski Brothers, Nolan and Holt, Sam Hilton, The D'Ormondes.

HULL PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—Coram, King and Benson, Harry Herbert, The Eldons, Two Anartos, Marvellous Merrills, Fred Rex and Co., in "Josser, K.C."

LEEDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—George Carney, Barrett and Knowles, Fred Russell,

RAYMOND Pursu[illegible] Plentifu',

Zetta Mor, May Talbot, Winifred Ward, Rich Hayes.

LIVERPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Manny and Roberts, Harry Thurston and Co. in "Lucky Old Bill," Haydn Wood and Dorothy Court, Peter Bernard, The Martinis, Newport and Stirk.

LIVERPOOL OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 1).—Harry Burns presents "Making Movies," Frank O'Dell, Two Cures, Jen Latona, Three Sisters O'Hara, J. H. Scotland, Penrose and Whitlock, Du Calion.

LONDON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11). —"Jig Saw."

NEWCASTLE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Harry Day presents "Patches."

NEW CROSS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Jay Laurier, Tucker, Twelvetrees Trio, T. Elder Hearn, Bernard, The Faynes, George D'Albert, Takio and Koma Namba.

NEWPORT EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Harvey Bathurst's great organ, with Miss Marie Ambrose, James Edison, The Hignleys, Naughton and Gold.

NOTTINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Great Carmo, Real McKays, Bert Terrell, Meteor Trio, May Henderson.

PRESTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11). — Albert de Courville's "Joy Bells."

SALFORD PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 11).—"The Wild Widow."

SHEFFIELD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Grock and Partner, J. W. Rickaby, Harry Taft, Nicol and Martin, Four de Meurs, Ethel Castaldini, The Terry Twins.

SOUTHSEA KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 1.30).—Cicely Courtneidge, Togan and Geneva, Broughton and Creedon, Duncan and Godfrey, Ernest Krake and Co., Omega Trio, Joseph Cheetham, Wallie Pearce.

SOUTH SHIELDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Albert Whelan, Robb Wilton, Adam

RAYMOND Wittiest of Wizards.

Tomlinson, Jeanette and Scott, Beanco, Walter Aubrey, Bert Hughes and Co. (Note.—South Shields bars Tynemouth.)

STRATFORD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Wilkie Bard, Wisto and Whyse, Three Arizonas, George D'Albert, May Sherrard, Daisy Wood, Joe O'Gorman.

SUNDERLAND EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Cruikshank, Hilda Glyder, Rolf Slater, Tom D. Newell, Brooklyn Comedy Four, Four Royal Scots, Boy Ronald. (Artists are requested to bring band parts for full orchestra, including horns and bassoon, harp, or second piano parts.)

SWANSEA EMPIRE (rehearsal, 2).—Albert de Courville's "Rat-Tat-Tat."

WEST HARTLEPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Tom E. Hughes, Lily Morris, O'Gorman Brothers, Brinn, Nathano Brothers, Ray Wallace.

AWARD CIRCUIT.

Note.—Rehearsal at all theatres at 1 p.m., with the exception of the Jubilee Hall, Weymouth, which is at 12 o'clock.

CHEPSTOW PALACE.—The Mezzettes, Frances Kinders.

GUERNSEY ST. JULIAN'S THEATRE.—Bernard Elliott's Company in "Damaged Goods," June 28, 29, 30, and July 1.

JERSEY OPERA HOUSE. — Bernard Elliott's Company in "Damaged Goods." June 28, 29, and 30, July 1.

SALISBURY PALACE.—Haley's Komets, Earle and Danilo, W. G. Watts, Les Nessolas.

WEYMOUTH JUBILEE HALL.—Vivian Foster, Bella Dale, Bell Boys and Bingham, Woolmer Young, Dalmere's Circus.

YEOVIL PALACE. — Carlos Merrard, Mervan Sisters.

VARIETY THEATRES CONTROLLING CO., LTD.

BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Dolly Elsworthy, Elgar-Hudson Quintette, Nellie Wallace, "Misery and Co.," Nat Ayer, The Gladiators, and company as booked.

Artists playing this Hall must provide the following Band Parts:—Piano, Conductor, 2 1st Violin Books, 2nd Violin, Viola, (separate) 'Cello and Bass, Flute, Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon, Horns, 2 Cornets, 1st and 2nd, and Bass Trombones, Drums.

BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Company as booked.

GLASGOW ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Green and Co., Moore and Roby, Burr and Hope, Teddy, Annie Rooney, Lowdini, Lecardo Bros.

LEEDS HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Morny Cash, "The Meanest Man on Earth," Hymack, Ernie Ream, Walton and Lester, Musical Navvies, Laura Guerite, Burley and Burley.

LIVERPOOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12). — Graham Bros., Dorothy Lena, Bert Coote and Co., Milton Hayes, Alice Delysia, Payne and Hilliard, Carlton.

MANCHESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 11).—Seymour Hicks and Co., Talbot O'Farrell, Harry Lamore, Jay Whidden, Rubani Trio, Foster Kershaw, Kiddy Kennedy.

MARGATE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"Hustle" revue, Arthur Leslie, Pearl Mitchell and Sister, and company as booked.

NEWCASTLE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Louis Douglas and Co., Claude Golden, Elida Morris, Werds Bros., Harry Marlow, Jean Schwiller, Dolly and Inez St. Vincent. (Artists please note.—Three first violins and piano parts are necessary in addition to the usual band parts.) To those requiring rooms in Newcastle, write c/o Manager.

PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Geo. Formby, Reynolds and Donegan Quartette, Three Dorinos, Vera Wootton, Lordain, Damsell, Harry Shirley.

SOUTHAMPTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.30).—Dusty Rhodes, Etoile Le Noir and Partner, Malvina and De Rance, Will Evans, Kitchen Comedy Four, Corn and Neil, and company as booked.

SHEFFIELD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"The Follies of 1920."

SOUTHEND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.30).—Gertie Gitana, Sam Mayo, Victor Kelly, Yvonne Granville, The Flemings, Syd Moorhouse, and company as booked.

WOLVERHAMPTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12). — Gabrielle Ray, Judge's Seal, Thornley Dodge, Fred Keeion, Billy Raynor, and company as booked.

STOLL TOUR.

(See page 23).

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALDERSHOT HIPPODROME. — Six Bros. Luck in "Film Stars," Yetia, Four Madcaps.

ALDERSHOT ALFRED BERT'S MILITARY HALLS (rehearsal, 2.30).—Corrie and Foote, Smith and Johnson, The Lancers, Maryon and Vene, The 2 Jukes, Boyd-Benton and Alfred Phillips, Trooper Heads, Fred Baker, Dot Clark, George Williams, Billy Russell, Winifred Russell, Hettie Holland, Gladys Helmore, James Baguley, Vera Sydney, Elsie Summers.

ASTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Gus McNaughton and company in "Kleaners, Ltd.," Haig Bros. and Ryan, Billy Russell, Frank Sylvo.

AYR PAVILION THEATRE (rehearsal, 1).—The Hanlon-Charles Quartette, Jack Hayworth, Alma Le Dare, Auber, Chris Kenny and Pop Carson, Les Cyclettes.

CANNING TOWN IMPERIAL (rehearsal, 11.30).—The Great Morritte, the Borellis, Avis and Sans, Jennie Castelle, the Clanceys, Arneri and Astor, others as booked.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME (rehearsal 1).—The Bogannys, Evelyn May and Pianist, Yost and Partner, Clifford and Westwood Co., Russell and West.

DUNDEE KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—The Elliott Savonas, the Hassans, Florrie Cameron, Bert Weston, J. P. Ling, Leslie Strange, the Kobes.

GLASGOW PAVILION (rehearsal, 11).—Tom Edwards, Paul Stephens, Tom E. Hood, The O'Cullens, Melvin and Mayo, Laddie.

KINGSTON EMPIRE.—Leslie-Stanelli-Edgar, Eddy Reed, Three Sisters Macarte, Those Four Kids, Haydees, Kissa, Alic Hollander, Willie Rolls.

LONDON CANTERBURY.—Violet Vandelle, Vera Kitchen, Frank Street, Vesta Lyons, Ernie O'Moore, The Pathé Gazette, and other selected pictures.

LONDON SHOREDITCH EMPIRE. — Frances and Alfred, D'Lonna, O'Shea Girls and Terry, the Monzos, Rosie Traners, Danty and Partner, the Piccadillians, Emerson and Gilbert.

NORTHAMPTON NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—"Hullo America."

PENGE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—The I.V.T.A., Ltd., present "The Lads of the Village."

PONTYPRIDD TOWN HALL (rehearsal, 3.30).—"Oh, La, La."

RICHMOND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Pattman's Organ, Horace Ainsley, Emeric and Ainslie, Ellis Jackson, Gicardo, Kastrina.

ROTHERHITHE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Ching Wu, Phil Bransby, Harry Atkinson, The Littlefields, The Dorise Girls, La Belle Julia, Elsie Sims, James and Gracie Ross, Harry Claff and company, Bioscope.

STIRLING ALHAMBRA THEATRE (rehearsal, 1). — Jack Kellino, Bridson, R. W. Willey, Grace Cunard, Harry Leybourne, Clare Coverdale's Nine Little Tiddley Winks.

WALHAM GREEN GRANVILLE (rehearsal, 12).—Leonard anid Royce musical burlesque, "A-la-Carte."

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"OH! ALEXANDER!!"

Farce, in Three Acts, by Bay Dumaresque, Presented for the First Time in London at the Chelsea Palace on Monday, June 21.

Freece .....Harry Phydora
Mr. Pettifer .....Fred Knight
Kyrie .....Archie Arbuthnot
Glory Rose .....Margot Drake
Mr. Boom .....Charles Windermere
Mr. Junk .....Evelyn Vaudray
The Grand Duchess ..Peggy Urquhart
Ermyntrude Baker .....Clare Sutton
The Grand Duke ....J. Robertson Hare
Charles Baker .....F. A. McKenzie

This new three-act farce, lately successfully exploited at Brighton, had a capital send off in suburban London under Mr. Charles Windermere's auspices. The plot hinges on the troubles and embarrassments of a prim and peaceful country pedagogue, Alexander Boom, who is made by a dissipated young blade to pose as a Russian Grand Duke Pavaloski in order to placate his aspiring but angry parent. The complications which ensue owing to this subterfage are added to considerably by the fact that the grand ducal pair are not really Russian royalty at all, but a couple of crooks masquerading in order to secure some priceless jewels. In the end Boom is exonerated and recovers the pearls.

As the meek and mild tutor posing as a Grand Duke, Mr. Charles Windermere is admirably suited in a kind of private secretary part, which he acts with his customary zest, high spirits, and grasp of character. He contrives to squeeze every ounce of fun out of the part. Miss Margot Drake as the highly attractive revue actress, Glory Rose, of the Hippoladium, puts plenty of life and vivacity into this rather colourless role. Mr. Fred Knight, as the ambitious carpet manufacturer, Pettifer, gives a sterling performance. Mr. Archie Arbuthnot as his young hopeful, Kyrie, hits off the reckless dare-devil nature of this determined votary of pleasure to the life. Mr. Harry Phydora as Freece, the sportive old butler to Mr. Pettifer, gets in some good, humorous work in a quiet way, and materially helps the piece along. Mr. Evelyn Vaudray as the janitor of the flats during the porter's absence on holiday, is drolly realistic and quaint.

Miss Peggy Urquhart as the Grand Duchess alias Mrs. Piccadilly Peter, is graceful and handsome. Mr. J. Robertson Hare as the fictitious Grand Duke acts with a lively sense of humour. Mr. F. A. Mckenzie as Charles Baker, a detective, does all that is required of him. Miss Clare Sutton as Ermyntrude Baker, his sister, is appropriately strong-minded and unattractive.

"THE 'RUINED' LADY."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by Frances Nordstrom, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Worthing, on Monday, June 21.

Dorothy Mortimer .... Gwynne Whitby
Wallis Mortimer ..... Lance Lister
Julia ..... Naomi Jacob
Mrs. Potts-Thompson Vivierre Whitaker
Miss Olive Gresham....Miss Eva Moore
Bill Bruce.....C. Aubrey Smith
Ann Mortimer ..... Rosa Lynd
Jack Torrence ..... John Williams
Bixby ..... Oswald Marshall
Mayene Breslin ..... Evelyn Brent
"Cutie" Bird ..... Joan Cochran

A large audience gave a favourable reception to the new comedy, produced by Mr. John Cromwell, on Monday evening, and on occasions the enthusiasm reached a high pitch. The story relates to Ann Mortimer, who has sacrificed many years of her youth to the care and upbringing of her dead brother's two children, and who suddenly wakes up to the fact that the golden days are quickly passing for her. Prompted by one of her friends, she makes a bold bid for the hand of the man whom she loves and who loves her, but who, in his turn, has grown to accept her devotion as a matter of course without realising the danger he runs of losing her as a wife.

Miss Rosa Lynd, who is responsible for the production, was charming as Ann Mortimer. Miss Eva Moore was undeniably good in the role of Miss Olive Gresham. Mr. Aubrey Smith played the part of Bill Bruce excellently, and Mr. Oswald Marshall was admirable as Bixby. The other characters were all in capable hands. The comedy was excellently staged.

"Spiritualism Exposed," by F. Attfield Fawkes, with an Introduction by Nevil Maskelyne, will shortly be published by J. W. Arrowsmith, Ltd. In this book the various phases of modern spiritualism are analysed, and a clear explanation given in each case of "how it is done." The author claims that modern spiritualistic phenomena, when they are not actual frauds, are the result of unconscious self-deception.

The Dance Mad Fiddler.

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"Butterfly" Preparations.

During the past few weeks the proprietors of the "Butterfly" preparations have experienced a big demand for their Grease Paint, which many well-known artists state is superior to the foreign makes which were largely used here a few years ago. The proprietors hope to shortly occupy larger premises, when they will be able to cope with the big demand for their preparations.

June Mills.

June Mills, assisted by Wm. Innes, is paying a quick return visit to the Palladium this week, as it is only last month that these clever entertainers made their bow before a London audience. Their immediate success was followed by numerous contracts which will keep them on this side for some considerable time.

Marie Rennie D'Haven.

That clever young artist, Marie Rennie D'Haven, who has been holiday-making at Brighton, has now returned to town, and will shortly resume her engagements.

Willie Rolls in Town.

At the New Cross Empire this week, Willie Rolls, the roller skating wizard, is making his reappearance in London, following his Continental and provincial engagements. After playing Kingston next week, Willie goes to Brighton for a fortnight's holiday, coming back to town to play eight weeks on the Syndicate Halls. He returns to the Continent in November.

Morelle's Mexican Circus.

That wonderful show, Morelle's Merican Circus, was a great attraction at Willesden last week. Gene Morelle, who was in personal command when we looked in, had provided a splendid array of talent, including wonderful riders, daring trapeze artists, rope performers, acrobats, and every circus attraction, not forgetting a company of really funny clowns. The two bands played very pleasing selections. The show is now on a tour through the Western Counties, where it should continue its success.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

The Adjourned Chocolate Debate—Railway Concession Practically Assured —The Orient in Drury Lane—A Repertory Theatre for Brighton.

The Chocolates Campaign.

Newspaper reports of the debate on the Early Closing Bill in the House of Commons on Friday gave the impression that, being "talked out," the Bill was defunct, and entertainment caterers began to breathe freely. Such apparently was not the case, as the debate was adjourned and will be resumed on Friday next, when the forces in favour of fair treatment for theatres will have to be marshalled again.

The amendments affecting the sweetmeat restrictions in places of amusement were not reached on Friday, but the contentious part of the measure was disposed of, and the fate of the bill one way or the other seems certain to be decided next Friday. There is, therefore, ample time for those who have not yet approached their local M.P. to write urging him to support the amendments favourable to the entertainments industry, and it is imperative that no effort to secure justice should be lacking.

It may be pointed out that there is no inconsistency in voting for the acceptance of the Bill and for the amendments. The passing of the bill will ensure the limitation of the working hours of shop employees, but that in no way affects places of amusement, where the sellers of chocolates and ices remain for other purposes, whether they have refreshments to dispose of or not.

Although the time did not arrive for the discussion of Captain Bowyer's amendments on Friday, incidental references were made in the course of the debate to the position of theatres and music halls under the Bill. Speaking on the amendment, which excepted from the operation of the Bill shops in which no assistants were employed, Mr. Jesson, the representative of the Musicians' Union, pointed out that the small shopkeeper, while he wished to be left alone, was not above trying to interfere with other people, and that different sections of the community enjoyed themselves while others took their rest.

The shopkeeper, so far as he could see, was in no different position from the other industries and professions, and if they were giving that kind of legislation to to everyone who wanted to reduce the hours of labour and to cease working at a specific time, if it was fair for one section of the community it was fair for other sections. He did not see how they were going to apply it to the entertainment profession or to such people as tramway men or 'busmen.

Railway Concession Hopeful.

With the end of this month the period for which the threatened three-quarter concession to theatrical companies was prolonged ceases, but there is every hope that arrangements may be made for its permanent retention. Mr. Harry Marlow, the chairman of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, is back in town, and he and the secretary, Mr. C. Douglas Stuart, have reopened negotiations, and are hopeful that entire success will attend their efforts.

Drury Lane's Eastern Spectacle.

Looking in at a dress rehearsal of "The Garden of Allah," due at Drury Lane tomorrow (Thursday) night, this "Era" representative found himself in quite an Eastern environment, breathing whiffs of Oriental ozone, so to speak, wafted across the Nile (at back) through the glorious gardens which Traveller Arthur Collins had photographed recently on the very spot.

Pending the starting of the play, real camels and other animals from the Purple East munched meditatively. Arabs, imported by Sheik Arthur Collins, having just recovered from their Ramadan Fast, were piously dividing their waiting-time between the ancient Eastern game of draughts and the almost as ancient Western pastime, Shove-ha'penny.

In the stalls distinguished onlookers included Miss Mary Anderson, Mr. Robert Smythe Hichens, Mr. Frederick Stanhope (who staged "The Garden of Allah" in America), Richard H. Lindo (Old Drury's company-secretary and resident-poet), business manager C. F. Taylor, Ernest D'Auban, the "Lane" stage manager, and scenic artists Bruce Smith and Joseph Harker.

Brighton Repertory Theatre.

Next Monday will see the opening of the Brighton Repertory Theatre, which has been inaugurated by Mr. F. R. Growcott. It is proposed to present Shakespearean and other standard classical works, the opening production being "The Bells." A prominent feature will be made of weekly matinées (at least three) specially designed for children and students from the local colleges and schools, and it is hoped that the Brighton Education Committee—which has already shown its appreciation of the educational importance of the drama by organising a special Shakespearean performance for children—will co-operate by encouraging them to attend during school hours.

The artists will all be professional actors and actresses (a combination of experimental Benaudian and Grant dramatic players), and these will form the permanent repertory company. The prices of admission will be 3s. 6d., 2s. 4d. and 1s. 3d. (including tax), and all seats will be bookable. The business manager is Mr. Clifford King.

The Neilson—Terry Gathering.

Apart from the speeches after the luncheon, at which Miss Julia Neilson was presented with her portrait, at the Savoy, on Friday, the chief business seemed to be the signing of menu cards. Mr. Fred Terry himself went round more than once, garnering signatures, borrowing a fountain pen or a pencil, as occasion demanded. It is unnecessary to add that he always returned them; indeed, he almost returned too many, for after holding up a pen and enquiring, "Whose is this?" he suddenly realised that it was his own.

Mr. Fred Fredericks improved the shining hour by getting the promise of a photograph from Miss Mary Glynne for his theatre, at Stratford, and in doing so, brought to light a remarkable coincidence. "I wish you would send me your photograph," we overheard Mr. Fredericks say to that charming young actress. "Certainly, I will," replied Miss Glynne, "and with all the more pleasure because it was the first theatre at which I ever appeared."

Theatrical Garden Party.

The fête in aid of the Actors' Orphanage was in full swing as we went to press. The fine grounds at Chelsea Hospital were already crowded, while queues of motor-cars lined the road. As on past occasions, the cream of the profession was present, and everyone appeared to be at his or her post ready for the great offensive on behalf of the institution which does such beneficent work on behalf of the actor's child. The exigencies of going to press betimes precludes any adequate reference to so important an occasion, a full report of which must therefore be held over till next week.

Why "Our Boys?"

In writing of Louis Calvert's production "Daddalums," several critics, strangely enough, have described it either as resembling or as being another "Our Boys." One such writer even headed his criticism "'Our Boys' again!" Why? Neither of the respective fathers of these Boys comes down in the world because of his son, as Daddalums does. Both the Baronet and the Butterman, in Byron's great success, remain rich and help their sons! Moreover neither son does nor is supposed to do anything.

St. James's New Play.

Lady Forbes-Robertson is this (Wednesday) evening putting on a new play, "The Old House," by Richard Pryce, based on a novel entitled "Candlelight," by Mrs. Dudeney. The feminine element preponderates in the cast, as there are only two men and seven women. The four leading parts are played by Gertrude Elliott, Susan Claughton, Malcolm Cherry and Frederic Worlock. Miss Clare Greet has opportunity for one of her clever studies of an old woman. Miss Suzanne Sheldon plays the Spirit of the House.

The piece is very strong, and is likely, we are assured, to arouse considerable discussion. Mr. Richard Pryce will be remembered as the author of "Saturday to Monday," produced by Sir George Alexander, and also that famous little sketch, "Hop o' My Thumb."

British Composer's New Opera.

The first production in its present form of a new romantic opera entitled "Dante and Beatrice," by Mr. Stephen R. Philpot, is to take place at the Lyceum Theatre on Friday evening next. The libretto is by Mr. William J. Miller.

Shakespeare Summer Festival.

The New Shakespeare Company will again be entrusted with the annual Shakespeare Summer Festival at Stratford-on-Avon, which will extend to six weeks, commencing on July 19 and continuing until the end of August. The company, which is under the direction of W. Bridges-Adams, is organised by a joint committee of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre and the governors of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, whose chairman is Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson. The company includes Miss Ethel Warwick, Miss Phyllis Relph, Miss Gwen Richardson, and Messrs. Murray Carrington, Edmund Willard, Stanley Lathbury and Mark Stanley.

In addition to the plays presented at the Birthday Festival—"The Merchant of Venice," "Much Ado About Nothing," "The Taming of the Shrew," "King Richard the Second," "Cymbeline" and "Hamlet"—several new productions will be added, viz., "King Henry the Fifth," "Macbeth," "Twelfth Night," and "As You Like It." The London Offices of the New Shakespeare Company are 27, Glasshouse-street, Piccadilly Circus, W. 1.

Mr. J. E. Vedrenne's Illness.

The operation which Mr. J. E. Vedrenne underwent in a London nursing home last week has proved successful, and he is now progressing satisfactorily. It will, however, be some weeks before Mr. Vedrenne will be well enough to resume his activities in the theatre world.

Theatrical Wedding.

The marriage of Miss Barbara Stokes, a member of the "Kissing Time" company, and Mr. Hampden Gordon, was celebrated on the 15th inst. at Brompton Oratory. The bride, who is a granddaughter of Sir Wilfred Stokes, wore a frock of accordion-pleated white georgette, and she had in attendance upon her ten bridesmaids.

"Actor" Changes.

Owing to pressure of work Mr. Athole Stewart, O.B.E., has regretfully been obliged to resign his editorship of the "Actor" after fulfilling that duty for the past year. The new editor is Mr. H. R. Barbor.

Wimbledon Theatre.

The Wimbledon Theatre will be closed after this week for a month, reopening on July 31 with Matheson Lang in "Carnival," to be followed by D'Oyly Carte's Opera Co. "Afgar," Carl Rosa Opera Co., and other London successes will be included in Mr. Mulholland's autumn season.

The Surrey.

Messrs. Miln, Fairbairn, and Miln, the lessees of the Surrey Theatre, have decided to close their theatre for the summer months, and this will give them an excellent opportunity to make some alterations to the house, in addition to having it redecorated. The Surrey will be re-opened in September, when Mr. Ben Greet will produce Messrs. Edward Stirling and Alfred Hayes' new "Pilgrim Fathers" drama, "The Mayflower." This is to be done on a most lavish scale, and the huge stage will be used to its fullest extent. After "The Mayflower" the Fairbairn-Miln Opera Company will return, and, if the support warrants, it will remain in possession during the winter months.

"Socks."

On Saturday next Mr. Frank Forbes-Robertson and his company, who are appearing this week in "Mice and Men" at the West Pier, Brighton, will produce at the Saturday matinée an entirely new farcical comedy by Mark Strangeways, entitled "Socks." Mark Strangeways is the nom de theatre adopted by a lady well known as a brilliant essayist whose work appears regularly in the principal reviews.

Mr. Frank Forbes-Robertson will play the principal character part—the Rev. Jimmie Jacobs—and will be supported by Miss Madge Trenchard, Miss Jean Sinclair, Miss Irene George, Miss Edith Cruikshanks, Mr. Francis A. Corfield, Mr. Frank Milray, and Mr. Frank Heath-Saunders, who is producing the play.

"What Every Woman Wants."

We understand that the new romantic and thrilling play, "What Every Woman Wants," which has been meeting with such remarkable success in the provinces, and more particularly at Leeds and Bradford, is now being presented by Mr. Joseph Hayman, who is open to arrange dates. This absorbing play of London and the American Far West is in five scenes, with an excellent cast.

"Toto" Tour.

The Alexander Humphreys "Toto" tour (by arrangement with Mr. Mark Blow) commences on July 26 at the Grand Theatre, Swansea. Mr. Humphreys has been with "Toto" for the past two years as Mr. Mark Blow's musical director, and will still continue to conduct it. The artists include Miss Elsie Parry (Toto) and Miss Irene Alexander (Alix), both well known in their respective parts; Mr. Stanley Kirk as Charles Morel, Miss Jean Wilson (late of the Carl Rosa Opera Co.) as Mme. Jollette, Mr. Frank Woodward as M. Jollette, Mr. Antony Hope as Bravannes, and Mr. W. Nixon (stage manager).

Fuller's Play Acquisitions.

Mr. Fuller is still buying scripts, and amongst those recently acquired are "The Unwanted Daughter" and "Plaything of an Hour," by C. Vernon Proctor; "The Broken Trail," by Wilson Howard; "The Sealed Door," by Ben Landeck, and two revues by Chas. Baldwin, entitled respectively "Whips and Quips" and "Waxworks."

A New Phantasy.

Mr. Theophilus Charlton has again scored with an entirely new phantasy entitled "A Jest of the Gods." It is at present being played at the Garrison Theatres prior to a London production.

"The Romance of the Rosary."

Herbert Shelley's new play, "The Romance of the Rosary," a story of the Far East, which is described as both original and gripping, is proving a sound success on tour, playing to excellent business. Mr. Shelley has had reluctantly to refuse an American offer this autumn on account of his solid bookings here.

W. V. Garrod's Plays.

In addition to theatre tours under his own direction, several of Mr. W. V. Garrod's plays will be seen this autumn in the fit-up towns. Miss Maggie Morton has acquired "The Right to Live," and Messrs. Percy Keeling and Dennis Clyde will tour "The Heart of a Thief" in Scotland, while Mr. W. L. Dobell is running others in Ireland. Messrs. Fuller have secured seven of Mr. Garrod's plays for Australia, and they are also much in demand by stock companies; his latest drama, "A Respectable Married Woman," will be seen at the Elephant and Castle Theatre on Oct. 18

Pianoforte-Playing Competition.

At the Standard Picture Playhouse, Croydon, Professor Albert Kemp, the pianist, is in training for the world's championship in continuous pianoforte playing. If he succeeds, the honour of winning goes to an Englishman, and his further reward will be the acquisition of £10,000 prize money, which will be awarded by The Consolidated Music Company, of Chicago. Both during training and throughout the actual contest, Professor Kemp accompanies the whole of the pictures shown on The Standard screen during the nine hours of exhibition each day.

Welsh Drama During Eisteddfod.

In view of the hopes of the promoters of Welsh drama for a national theatre, it is worthy of note that for the first time in the history of the Eisteddfod the drama competition, which is part of this year's function at Barry, is to be held in a theatre, arrangements having been made at the Royal during the great Welsh festival week. Only those acquainted with the previous "hard-shell" attitude of Welsh Nonconformity towards anything savouring of the theatre, can appreciate the significance of the innovation.

Mr. W. Bryn Davies, Chairman of the Drama Committee, states that each competing company will select its own drama and arrange for its performance locally. Two of the three adjudicators will be present at each performance, and the best three companies will be selected to produce their drama at the theatre on the Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of the Eisteddfod week.

Women's Local Government Society.

A garden fête in aid of the funds of this Society will be held at Bedford College, Regent's Park, on Saturday afternoon, July 10th. Among those who have kindly promised to give their services on this occasion are: Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Misses Esmé and Vera Beringer, Mr. Alfred Capper and Miss Violet Withall's Quartette. A concert, arranged by Mrs. Walter Ford, will be given, and members of the Old Queen's Society will appear in a play produced by Mr. Bernard Macdonald.

Gilbert and Sullivan Opera Pageant.

In aid of the Watford District Memorial Hospital Deficit Fund a Gilbert and Sullivan Pageant is to be held for four days—July 7, 8, 9 and 10—in the Dell of Cassiobury Park, Watford (kindly lent by Lord and Lady Wilton). Extracts from eight of the Savoy operas will be presented, under the supervision of W. Simms-Ball and by kind permission of Mr. R. D'Oyly Carte; 450 performers will take part. Tickets are available through Messrs. Keith Prowse, or the Pageant secretary, St. Michael's Vicarage, Watford.

REFRESHMENTS IN THEATRES.

COMMONS' DEBATE ADJOURNED.

The Shops (Early Closing) Bill, under which the sale of confectionery in places of amusement after certain hours is prohibited, came up in the House of Commons on the report stage last Friday, but the debate was still going on at 5 o'clock, and the discussion was adjourned till the following Friday (the 25th).

Captain Bowyer's amendments were consequently not reached, and for the convenience of our readers we reproduce them below. The first is an addition to Clause 2 of Sub-Section 2, by which exceptions to the operation of the Act are made in certain circumstances.

The amendment reads thus:—

To insert (f) The sale of sweets, chocolates, and other confectionery and ices in the auditorium and refreshment-rooms of places of public entertainment to bona fide members of the audience, during such time as they are open for public entertainment and for immediate consumption on the premises.

Captain Bowyer has also set down an amendment to omit Sub-Section 2, Clause 2, page 3, line 10, as follows:—

(5) No exemption conferred by this Section shall operate so as to authorise the sale of chocolates or sweets in theatres and places of entertainment after the closing hour."

All who have not already done so should write to their local M.P. asking him to support the above resolutions, by which places of amusement are saved from being penalised.

Managers' Determination.

At a recent meeting of the Theatrical Managers' Association, the following resolution was passed:—

"That in view of the fact that theatre managers have for many years, and particularly during the war, freely given, at considerable loss to themselves, the use of their places of entertainment for charities and meetings (and during the war for War Loan advertisement and propaganda work and collections), they strongly resent the continuance of the war-time restrictions against the ancient privileges of selling sweets and chocolates to members of the audience for consumption on the premises—a privilege that is the right of the theatres, and does not compete with the ordinary shop's custom. The managers regret, however, to announce that they cannot afford to continue to grant the free use of the theatres for the above purposes until this privilege is restored."

APATHETIC ACTORS.

THE PROVINCIAL DELEGATE

Problems of organisation were discussed at the propaganda meeting of the Actors' Association held last Friday at the New Oxford Galleries, London, but the attendance was by no means large, and Mr. Alfred Lugg, who presided, lamented, as did others, the apathy of actors, who never seemed to take any interest in their own welfare.

Mr. Lugg, dealing with the company delegate proposals, pointed out that the Association was a head office, all work being centralised in London. There were no provincial branches, and the question arose as to whether there should be offices in the big provincial towns or whether the development of the Association might not be more effective by means of delegates attached to each touring company to represent the Association and generally look after the interests of members. The scheme advocated was to ask the touring companies to elect their delegates. It would, when there happened to be several companies together in one town, be possible to hold meetings there. The delegates of a touring company would be valuable in seeing that members were up to date with their subscriptions, and in recruiting new members. A touring company, in fact, should really become a travelling branch of the Association. Mr. G. A. Spencer advocated a paid organising travelling delegate, and Mr. Lugg said the Council had considered that point, and was really in favour, feeling, however, that the expense did not warrant that experiment at the moment. As they knew, he went to the provinces from time to time, but unfortunately invariably found the people too apathetic to attend meetings.

Mr. Clifford Rean said the unfortunate fact was that though those in the union were enthusiastic, those outside were absolutely indifferent. There were eight or nine thousand actors in London, yet look at the attendance that day!

A member insisted that something should be done to make the position of a delegate secure in case of attempted victimisation, and proceeded to say that the delegate system would be far more economical than opening offices in big towns.

Mr. Luke Forster feared the name "delegate" would rouse a degree of antagonism on the part of some managers. The travelling delegate, paid by the Association, was the ideal, for he could not be victimised.

Mr. Stanton feared that victimisation would not be less prevalent even if delegates were called chairmen. Moreover, if a delegate were a chairman, with power to call meetings, a manager might arrange a rehearsal to clash with the meeting. (Loud laughter.)

Mr. Lugg pointed out that they must take the risk. If a manager made up his mind to victimise, he would do so. He favoured the paid organiser, who would be beyond the possibility of such spite.

It was eventually, on the motion of Mr. Stephen Wentworth, agreed to ask the Council to go into the question of the appointment of a travelling delegate.

Regarding the debate on the agency, some members thought it valuable; others not. It was, however, explained that whilst it was easy to find "shops" for members during the war, it was by no means so easy now.

A member suggested that it would be better to spend the £10 a week, which was the cost of the agency, on a travelling delegate.

Mr. Lugg said the point was that the managers did not go to the agency, but to others, which were run by managers or where there was a splitting of commission. Until the Union was really powerful they could not insist on the use of the agency. Meanwhile he could not expect that managers would rush to the Association agency, and so indirectly aid the Association to fight them at some future time.

The matter was eventually referred to Council.

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A few opinions from popular people.

Mr. MARTIN HARVEY,
Grand Theatre, Hull.—"I have been intending for some time to send you a testimonial about your Grease Paints. I have given them a good trial now, and I think I can honestly say that they are superior even to the German, and that, alas! is saying a good deal. I compliment you heartily upon your achievement."

Mr. WILL EVANS,
Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.—"I thank you for sample of your Grease Paints you sent, and I find it a very excellent preparation. I shall certainly continue to use it."

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION MATTERS.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Police Officers Playing in Films.

Information has been received by the secretary that it has become a practice with certain cinema studios to employ police officers to play in films at a few shillings per day, and this practice obviously throws legitimate artists out of employment, and also tends to lower the market price. Further, it is forbidden by their regulations that police officers should act in this manner, and it is obviously unfair that men in well-paid employment should be permitted to act in this way. The matter has been taken up with the studio principally concerned, with Scotland Yard, and with the Home Office, and it is fairly safe to say that this offence will not be repeated. One argument advanced was that they could not get actors to look like policemen. Fortunately, the secretary had seen a copy of a "still" taken of the actual scene, in which an actor looked exactly like a policeman, and the constable who was acting in the same scene looked very unlike a policeman.

Unsanitary Theatres.

The following report has been received from one of our delegates, and has been confirmed by many others:

"That the Actors' Association is having a salutary effect on the management of provincial theatres. Greater attention is paid to the comfort of artists and to the cleanliness and sanitary conditions of the dressing-rooms and theatres generally."

Delegates who have made reports have noticed a very marked improvement in nearly every theatre they have recently visited. Our thanks are due to the newspapers who have taken up this matter with us, and more directly to Mr. Charles Palmer, who represents us in the House of Commons, who, by questions to the Ministry of Health and statements in papers which he controls (among others "John Bull," "The National News," and "The Sunday Evening Telegram"), has probably contributed more than anyone else to this satisfactory state of affairs.

Unstamped Contracts.

Our solicitors have drawn the attention of the Council to the fact that practically every contract which has been submitted for evidence in legal cases recently taken up has been unstamped. It is absolutely necessary that artists should realise that all contracts should be stamped within fourteen days of signing, and the Council has instructed the secretary to make public the fact that all penalties for the future charged by the authorities for unstamped contracts will have to be paid by the members concerned.

Insurance.

A paragraph appeared in "The Referee" a short time back complaining that the 3 fare robbed artists of any claim for lost luggage on the railway. The policy which the Association holds covers insurance to personal property to members of the A.A. from any cause, except at cleaners' and dyers, to the amount of £25 in each individual case.

Old Age Pensions.

Every actor would like to know that at the age of 60 he would be entitled to an old age pension of the minimum salary per week (£3). The Valentine Memorial Pension Fund, which was started as a memorial to our late respected chairman, was also started with the object of pensioning as many members of the Association as possible, according to the amount of the fund, and, providing that we are successful in getting 15,000 members by the end of this year, it is proposed definitely to develop the old age pension scheme, in the hope of bringing about the happy state of affairs as suggested at the beginning of this paragraph.

Protection Fund for 1920.

Delegates are requested to apply to the secretary if ballot papers in the above matter have not reached the members of their company by this week-end, when papers will be forwarded care of the delegate for distribution among the members. All ballot papers must be in by 12 noon on Monday morning, July 5.

Liverpool Meeting.

The third provincial propaganda meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 29, at the Playhouse, Liverpool, kindly lent us by Mr. Smith Piggott and his directors. Artists in the Liverpool district should attend. The secretary will be going to Liverpool on Saturday, the 26th, for the purpose of this meeting.

ALFRED LUGG,
General Secretary.

FRIDAY'S COUNCIL MEETING.

The usual weekly meeting was held on June 18. Present: Norman McKinnel (in the chair), Frank R. Petley, Robert Michaelis, A. Harding Steerman, Walter Gay, Stephen Wentworth, Frank Heath-Saunders, Cyril Grier, C. V. France, Miss Jessica Black, Ben Webster, Miss Ethel Griffies, Miss Haidee Gunn, Eric H. Albury, Bertram Wallis, Miss Ada Ferrar, Herbert Stanton, Luke Forster, Mrs. Saba Raleigh, J. Theodore Goddard (solicitor), and Alfred Lugg (secretary). The chairman read letters from Miss Laurette Taylor, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, and a report from the chairman on a meeting of the London Council for the Promotion of Public Morality. A vote of condolence was passed with Miss Braithwaite on the death of her sister.

Complaints.

The four members of the Council who had attended at the A.A. office to hear complaints and suggestions from members reported, and the following councillors volunteered to attend this week:—

Monday, June 21, Miss Haidee Gunn, 1-2 p.m.

Tuesday, Mr. A. Harding Steerman, 1-2 p.m.

Wednesday, Miss Ada Ferrar, 1-2 p.m.

Thursday, Miss Jessica Black, 1-2 p.m.

Flying Matinées.

A letter was read from Mr. F. B. J. Sharp on the above subject, and regretting inability to attend the meeting. Discussion re flying matinées followed.

Campaign for New Members.

It was suggested that members of the Council should visit the various suburban theatres with a view to getting new members, and Messrs. Herbert Stanton, Walter Gay, and Clifford Rean volunteered to do this.

The report of the Nominations Committee read by Mr. Stephen Wentworth, and the solicitor's report read by Mr. J. Theodore Goddard, were carried.

AN A.A. TESTIMONIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Sir,—Some few weeks ago you recorded, under the heading "Actors' Association Matters," the names of the various theatres, &c., whose managers had been complimented upon the cleanliness of the dressing-rooms, &c.

I did not, however, notice the local Opera House mentioned, although it should obviously have been included, as the appended cutting from the local paper will testify.

Your Burton-on-Trent Correspondent.

BURTON OPERA HOUSE.

Patrons of the Burton Opera House will be happy to endorse to the full the following high testimonial received by the manager, Mr. J. F. Watson, from the Actors' Association:—

April 15, 1920

Dear Sir,—Re the Opera House, Burton-on-Trent. We have received a report from a member of our Association visiting your theatre, on the extreme cleanliness of the dressing-rooms, lavatories, &c. It seems hardly necessary to make this a matter of special comment, but as so many theatres are kept in anything but a clean and sanitary condition, we should like to thank you on behalf of the Association for your consideration in this respect. We shall always be most glad to co-operate with you in any matter of mutual interest to the manager and artists.—Yours faithfully,

W. WYATT,
Assistant Secretary.

The above compliment is undoubtedly well merited, and could be made to apply to every part of the building.

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THE JULIA NEILSON PORTRAIT.

A HAPPY FAMILY FUNCTION.

A delightful little ceremony, quite in the nature of a family party, was re-enacted at the Savoy Hotel, on Thursday, when theatre proprietors from all parts of the Kingdom, whose theatres she had visited, united to present Miss Julia Neilson with her portrait, which now hangs in the Royal Academy. Mr. Fred Terry, who was present, had undergone the same pleasing experience some two years ago, and signs were not wanting that other members of the Terry family would qualify for similar treatment in the near future.

As on the former occasion, Mr. John Hart presided, and there were also present Miss Phyllis Neilson Terry, Miss Mary Glynne, Mr. Cecil King, Sir Alfred Robbins, Mrs. Fred Moniliot, Mrs. Dudley Bennett, Mr. Philip Rodway, Mr. Fred W. Warden, Mr. Nat Hepworth, Mr. Fred Fredericks, Mr. Lawson Lambert, Mr. Otto Culling, Mr. B. H. Bull, who had acted as hon. secretary, Mr. Arthur Garrett, Mr. H. W. Rowland, Mr. Alfred Warsing, Mr. Murray King, Mr. C. E. Scutt, Mr. Cyril Royce, and Mr. Frank Daniel. Mr. Bull read letters expressing regret at not being able to attend, as they had hoped, from Sir Walter and Lady de Frece, Mr. J. B. Mulholland, Mr. G. T. Minshall, Mr. H. W. Wyndham, Mr. J. F. Elliston, Mr. Robert Redford, and Mr. Dennis Neilson-Terry. Mr. Dennis Neilson Terry's absence was due to the fact that he had a matinée.

A Distinguished Career.

The Chairman was heartily greeted when he rose to propose the toast of "Our Guest." He said:—Sir Alfred Robbins, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It was our pleasure some two years ago to welcome here our friend, Fred Terry, and to-day we have even a greater privilege in being honoured by the presence of Miss Julia Neilson. It is difficult for one to eulogise Miss Neilson's work because it is so well known to all, and a distinguished career like hers carries its own artistic worth. Her mission has been to entertain, educate, and raise the tone of the British drama, and admirably has she succeeded. (Cheers.)

Our guest was educated abroad, and developed musical talent to an unusual degree. She entered the Royal Academy of Music, London, with a view to becoming a pianiste, but having shown herself possessed of a pure mezzo-soprano voice, she was persuaded by Mr. Randegger and Mr. (afterwards Sir Joseph) Barnby to cultivate singing. Once under their guidance and tuition the young vocalist made rapid progress, and in the course of time, won in succession the Llewellyn-Thomas gold medal for declamatory singing, the Sainton-Dolby prize and the Westmorland Scholarship. Her singing at the students' concerts was the theme of universal admiration, and it was certain that a brilliant career as an oratorio and operatic singer was in sight.

However, Fate decreed it otherwise, and Miss Julia Neilson was destined to shine in another artistic sphere.

The late W. S. Gilbert, ever on the look out for, and anxious to encourage, promising artists, happened to be present at some private theatricals in which our guest took part, and was so impressed by her performance that he declared the stage to be her real vocation.

On March 21, 1888, Miss Julia Neilson made her first professional appearance in Gilbert's "Pygmalion and Galatea," subsequently appearing at the St. James' Theatre, under the management of Mr. Rutland Barrington, in a part specially written for her by Mr. Gilbert, that of Ruth in "Brantingham Hall," and it was in this play that she secured her first hold on the public, and recognition as an actress of distinction and ability. After accompanying the late Sir Herbert Tree on a provincial tour in 1889, Miss Neilson joined the brilliant company under this clever actor-manager at the Haymarket Theatre, sustaining the leading lady rôles there till 1894.

A Life Engagement.

Miss Neilson first met Mr. Terry in 1889, when he played "D'Aubrey" to her "Clarice." Theirs was a very romantic attachment, for, despite many brilliant offers that had been laid at her feet (laughter and aplause) she chose wisely and well a fellow-worker. Miss Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry were married whilst both were playing in "The Dancing Girl," and the happy event happened whilst on tour with the late Sir Herbert Tree at the Theatre Royal, Brighton.

Our guest, with her distinguished husband, has done excellent work during the last 26 years, the best remembered plays in which she appeared being "Comedy and Tragedy," "A Village Priest," "Called Back," "The Red Lamp," "The Dancing Girl," "The Tempter," "Achilles," "Once Upon a Time," "The Tree of Knowledge," "A Woman of No Importance," "The Conqueror," "Shall We Forgive Her?" "The Gipsy Earl," "Sweet Nell of Old Drury," "Sunday," "Dorothy o' the Hall," "The Scarlet Pimpernel," "Matt of Merrymount," "Henry of Navarre," "The Popinjay," and "Much Ado About Nothing."

In the "Dancing Girl," as Drusilla Ives, she played the dual rôle of a Quakeress and a dancer with daring simplicity, as Rosalind in "As You Like It" she shared with George Alexander in the record run at the St. James's. In "Nell of Old Drury," she was at her best, whilst in "The Tree of Knowledge" Miss Neilson composed and sang her own song. The cast of this play included Messrs. George Alexander, Fred Terry, H. B. Irving, the Misses Carlotta Addison and Fay Davis. "An Ideal Husband" gave Miss Neilson an opportunity in real comedy. The handsome Lily Hanbury also took part in this play, and the two cousins made a charming contrast.

Our guest's work has brought its reward, and it is the result of her distinguished career that has created this occasion.

The portrait of Miss Neilson as Nell Gwynne which we are here to present has been painted by Mr. Frank Daniell, and I may add that it is a worthy companion to the one of her husband. Nothing I can say will add to its merit because it is now hanging in the Royal Academy. I shall disclose to you a photographic copy, permission being given to take some for this event.

Miss Neilson, will you accept from us, the Provincial Managers of the United Kingdom whose theatres you visit, this portrait of yourself (which is now at the Royal Academy) as an expression of our regard, admiration, and goodwill, and allow me to say how glad we are to learn that you will be acting again the coming autumn? (Cheers.)

A Landmark in Life.

Obviously touched by the warmth of her reception, Miss Neilson rose to respond.

"You, my brothers and sisters in management," she said, "Mr. Bull, Mr. John Hart, if I mention these two old friends by name, it is because I know how much really hard work is entailed in the organising of a function of this kind and the loving enthusiasm with which they have carried it through. I shall not keep you listening to me long, and I am somewhat nervous of making this speech. You see I am not in the habit of so doing. That usually falls to my dear better half, whose eloquent flow of language you all know so well. (Laughter.) Still, I should indeed be ungrateful were I not to struggle to find a few words that would adequately thank you for this wonderful day; this landmark in my career, and this quite too charming gift, this portrait of Sweet Nell, finely painted by that splendid artist Mr. Daniell.

I am touched beyond words that you should think me worthy of this presentation, this mark—may I say?—of affection, and this compliment of which I am supremely proud; just one of those things that bring a lump to one's throat.

"Could anything be more perfect to me than this day? Sweet friends, a lovely lunch, a gorgeous present. I am beginning to feel like quoting Rosalind:—

"'If I were among you I would kiss many of you.'

"But no, that might be somewhat trying for you all. Still, let me say, I thank and love you for this happy day. I love you for your gift, and, above all, I love you for that sweet and beautiful thought that prompted this gift. My words seem so poor, somehow I have not been able to express all the gratitude which lies in my heart. So, of this day I say to you all, as Nell says to her King:—

"'Memory will be my happiness,
You are all enshrined there.'

"Thank you again, and again —— and thank God that's over." (Laughter and cheers.)

JULIA NEILSON AS SWEET NELL

A Famous Family.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Sir Alfred Robbins made a felicitous speech regarding the guest of the afternoon, who, he said, had preserved her youth and beauty unimpaired. Life was made worth while by the wonderful art of the ever-youthful Julia Neilson, the ever-buoyant Fred Terry, of their distinguished daughter, Phyllis Neilson-Terry, and their daughter-in-law, Miss Mary Glynne (Mrs. Dennis Neilson-Terry), who had given Mr. and Mrs. Terry a granddaughter to carry on the great traditions of the family.

The health of the Terry family was drunk, and in acknowledgment Mr. Cecil King (son-in-law of Mr. Terry) thanked them on behalf of his wife for the privilege they had given him of rendering homage to a wonderful actress, a beautiful woman, and a perfect friend. He proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Bull, who, in reply, said his work was a labour of love.

An Enduring Friendship.

Proposing the health of the Chairman, Mr. Fred Terry said: It is a very great pleasure and a very great delight to propose the health of my dear good friend, John Hart. In our management you have all been good friends—every one, but in regard to John Hart, I think there has been a special little love between us, because we did not always see eye to eye. John Hart is one of those men who, when he has had a fight, likes the man he fought with all the more, that is, if he has fought cleanly. I think it was a drawn battle, but, anyhow, we have had many a game of golf since. For eighteen years John Hart and I have had no agreement except a shake of the hand when I arrive at the theatre in the many towns to which I have the privilege of going—shall I say?—under his management, for it is a delight to be able to say so, and a delight to call John Hart my friend, as indeed it is to call you all. So I thank you for giving me the opportunity of proposing his health, and hope that he may live long to honour the profession to which he belongs.

A Business Move

Mr. Hart having responded, Mr. Otto C. Culling proposed the health of Mr. Arthur Garrett, Mr. Terry's general manager. He was in duty bound, he said, to propose Mr. Garrett's health, otherwise he would get no more contracts. It was rumoured that Mrs. Terry was going to accompany her husband on his next tour, and that was a further incentive to propitiate her general manager.

Mr. Garrett laughingly replied that that remark would cost Mr. Culling 5 per cent. more. Miss Phyllis Neilson-Terry was also going round, and he felt sure she would do the business that her mother did before her. She was a coming Ellen Terry, and he was certain she would paralyse the town in Halifax, Blackburn, Rochdale, and other places in which Mr. Culling had theatres.

The Great Minority.

On behalf of "a very great minority," the only two lady representatives of management present, Mrs. Dudley Bennett said she wished to say how pleased they were to be present at this compliment to their charming and sweet lady, Mrs. Terry. She looked forward to welcome Miss Neilson-Terry to Coventry and the other lady member of the family, Miss Mary Glynne.

THE PIONEER PLAYERS.

Produced at the Kingsway Theatre on Sunday, June 20.

Uncle Antoine ..... Brember Wills
Lie ..... Marion Phillips
Helene ..... Renee Mayer
Marcel ..... Bobbie Andrews
Céline ..... Sybil Thorndike
Monsieur Masurel .. Fewlass Llewellyn
Aunt Bertha ..... Ada Palmer
Aunt Therese ..... Edith Evans
The Doctor ..... Herbert Norris
A Masquer ..... O. Slade
Madame Masurel ..... Stella Rho
The Butcher ..... G. Harrison Browne
Little Masurel ..... Monica Disney

"Life's a queer sort of carnival, we all wear masks, we don't even know our own children." In M. Saint-Georges de Bouhélier's play, "The Children's Carnival," beautifully translated by Miss Christopher St. John, produced by the Pioneer Players at the Kingsway Theatre last Saturday evening, and again at a special matinée in aid of Serbian children on Monday afternoon, the author depicts a singularly painful side of life, a dying woman forced to admit to her sixteen-year-old daughter that she has sought love from many men, in revolting against the cruel tyranny of two exceptionally unpleasing specimens of elder sisters, and that, alas! she has found not love, but shame only. Believing that her mother's story has turned her lover's heart away from her, the girl Helene is filled with stony resentment. The shock and the subsequent misery is too much for the mother's enfeebled vitality, and she dies as her daughter is at last pouring out a torrent of self-reproaches and protestations.

In all three scenes—in two Céline is dying, in the third she is lying dead in a room at the back of the stage—the merry noise of carnival is heard outside, sometimes loud with laughter, and then fading away almost to silence, while from time to time we see through the large window the figures of the revellers, who do not hesitate to invade even the house of death. The contrast is extraordinarily effective, and the play itself, although almost unbearably harrowing, is impressive and artistic. It is a study of temperaments, and the effect that those diametrically opposed have on one another. The dying Céline, a beautiful woman made for love and happiness, owes her life's misery and her death to her narrow, intolerant, malicious sisters, and it is to save herself from her aunts that Helene, her mother's daughter, consents to run away with her lover, leaving her little sister in their merciless clutches. There is also another character, the brother of the three sisters, amiable and weak, whose efforts to right matters are of necessity ineffectual, lacking the vital power that is needed to bring them to a successful issue.

Miss Sybil Thorndike played with exquisite sensitiveness and pathos as the sick woman. She had a supremely difficult task, for she played from a bed throughout, but she made a profound impression nevertheless. Sympathetic in its simplicity and sincerity was the Helene of Miss Renee Mayer, and the weak, well-meaning Antoine of Mr. Brember Wills was a remarkably clever piece of character-acting. Mr. Bobbie Andrews, Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn, Miss Ada Palmer, Miss Edith Evans, and little Miss Marion Phillips were all notably good.

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THE REALM OF MUSIC.

THE MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

ORCHESTRAL NOTES AND NEWS.

IN THE CONDUCTOR'S CHAIR.

MR. ERIC MAREO.

An interesting career has been enjoyed by Mr. Eric Mareo, the popular chef

MR. ERIC MAREO.

d'orchestre of the Kingston Empire, who has had a varied and somewhat unique existence. Born in Sydney, N.S.W., in 1892, Mr. Mareo was, at the age of 14, sent to the Schanvenka Conservatoire of Music, Berlin, where he studied music for four years, and obtained numerous diplomas for piano playing, orchestration, &c. After leaving the Conservatoire, Mr. Mareo was for three years accompanist and musical director to the late Auguste Van Biene. On one occasion, whilst "The Broken Melody" company were visiting Wigan, Mr. Van Biene was taken suddenly ill, and Mr. Mareo volunteered to go on and play his part in the guise of a "pianist" instead of a "'cellist." So fortunate was the venture that Mr. Mareo holds a cigarette case presented him by Mr. Van Biene, in recognition of his success. Mr. Mareo has travelled all over Australia, New Zealand, and Tasmania, and speaks three languages. For some time he relinquished the bâton and faced the footlights at the Globe Theatre, with Miss Ethel Irvig, in the productions of "Vanity" and "Lady Frederick." Finding, however, that his inclinations remained in the direction of music, Mr. Mareo began touring as musical director to various revue and musical comedy companies, and subsequently attained the position of resident musical director at the Hippodrome, Aldershot, where he remained for 3½ years. During this period Mr. Mareo became immensely popular with both artists and audience, and it was with regret that he severed his acquaintance with Aldershot, having been offered by Mr. Clarence Sounes the position of resident musical director at his other hall, the Kingston Empire, where he has quickly become equally popular. Mr. Mareo is a brilliant orchestrator, and his one ambition is to compose the music to a London musical comedy.

CONCERT PARTIES AT WORK.

The Rogues.

Fred Roper and Bart Brady present their concert party, the Rogues, at Jesmond Pavilion, Newcastle-on-Tyne, this week. The company includes Fred Roper, Bart Brady, Vera Barker, Max Miller, Alix Arnott, Lilly Selder, and Bessie Millard. They have some good concerted numbers, and present an up-to-date programme that includes most of the latest songs.

The Gypsies.

The concert party season at the Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, is now in full swing, and this week the Gypsies are appearing in musical variety show, and including that well-known artist Miss Cecilia (Cissie) Loftus.

The Topics.

During the week Mr. Fenn Leyland, of Ashton's Orchestra, has produced a succession of high-class programmes at the Alexandra Gardens, Weymouth, the varieties being provided by the Topics concert party, who put on a sparkling programme full of good things.

Golden Vanities.

Good business is still being done by this troupe at the Pier Pavilion, Hastings. Billie Moran is now the comedian of the party, and has quickly made good. Barney O'Reilly, the Irish boy, is irresistible with his songs, stories and dances. An excellent pianist is found in Eileen Cheatle. Daisy Cleaver charms with her rich contralto, and pleasing soubrette numbers are contributed by Phyllis Croker. Mlle. Irina is responsible for some graceful dancing. Herbert Williams, who is presenting the party, has a powerful baritone voice which he knows how to use.

Masks and Faces.

Gane and Morley's Masks and Faces opened the second week of their stay at Alexandra Park on Monday. This excellent combination is under the direction of Horace Manger, a resourceful comedian. Good support is given by Maitland Moss, who is responsible for clever monologues; Roy Galloway, with some fine baritone numbers; Adelaide Hartland, the possessor of a clear soprano voice; Sylvia Welling, an engaging soubrette; Gladys Wynne, whose child studies go well; and Dora Maishman, who puts in some splendid work at the piano.

The Brownies.

Last week the Brownies commenced a short season at the Devonshire Park, Eastbourne. A crowded house welcomed the return of this clever troupe in the most cordial manner. Mr. Charles Heslop is the moving spirit of this bright entertainment as writer, producer, comedian and accomplished dancer. The assistance of Miss Maidie Field, both in her own character work and in duets with Mr. Heslop, is conspicuously successful. Miss Dodo Slade is a gifted singer who contributes some popular items; Miss Mollie Milne is a young and graceful dancer, and in addition has a pleasing voice. Mr. Robert Field and Mr. Basil Bowen do well in individual and concerted work, and Mr. Claude Russell, in solo work and as an accompanist, maintains the high standard of this refined and artistic band of pierrots.

Revelry.

At Kingston this up-to-date combination continues to provide very good programmes which attract large audiences. Several new numbers have been included. On Wednesday evening a special attraction was a visit of the Gleesome Singers from "Baby Bunting" in a selection from their up-to-date repertoire.

Shrapnels.

Mr. Frank Blythe's Shrapnels concert party are appearing this week at the Exchange Theatre, Spalding, with several of the original party which entertained the soldiers on the battlefields during the war.

The Ridlers.

At the Coliseum, Whitby, the Ridlers concert party continue to provide excellent fare under the direction of Lieut. Leslie Fuller.

The Elites.

This clever concert party are at the Palace, Stamford, this week, presenting attractive programmes. The artists include: Nellie May, soprano; Dollie Hook, soubrette; Leslie Thorne, vocalist; Alec. Ball, light comedian and dancer; Jack Barclay, baritone; Charles Pearson, solo pianist and accompanist; and Charlie Lyndon, comedian and dancer. Messrs. P. M. Turner and Leslie Thorne present the show.

Rare Bits.

At the Cirencester Corn Hall, Dudley Harcourt is presenting Torn Owen, Welsh comedian, with his concert party, the Rare Bits.

Brevity.

At His Majesty's Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness, last week, Mr. Richard Jerome's Brevity delighted large audiences. Their show is particularly bright and clever.

The Seven Nobodies.

Mr. Harry Leslie's vaudeville company, under the direction of Mr. Charles Wade, is the attraction this week at the Spa Opera House, Bridlington. The artists include Misses Mabel Leslie, soubrette and burlesque actress; Peggy James, comedienne and dancer; and Madge Taylor, soprano; Messrs. Harrington Weeks, comedian; Ivan Grey, light comedian and speciality dancer; Bert Mellor, pianist; and Charles Wade, baritone.

The Scottish Dons.

At the Anglesey Palace, Burton-on-Trent, Mr. Jack Lawrance is presenting the Highland concert party. The artists include Miss Julia Laurent, Miss Betty Crawford, Miss Grace Gordon, Mr. J. Shiel Anderson, Mr. Harry Whitehead, Mr. Jack Lawrance, and Miss Betty Lawrie. The Scottish Dons are favourites at the Anglesey, and crowded houses should be the order.

The Society Idols.

At the Montpellier Pavilion, Cheltenham, this company is appearing with conspicuous success. Miss Tina Frank, soubrette, who leads the party, is a local pantomime favourite, and receives a hearty welcome. Mr. Arthur Croxon, comedian, is very much to the taste of local patrons, with Mr. Walter Cross, the entertainer, an excellent second. Miss Virginia Davis' soprano singing is greatly enjoyed, as also are Mr. Arthur Donovan's baritone songs. Miss Pearl Parry justifies her name in the sphere of Terpsichore, and Miss Jessie Attwell is a most proficient pianist.

The Onchans.

This clever and up-to-date combination, The Onchans, have commenced their season on the Head of Douglas Bay. The company is under the direction of the favourite comedian with Manx visitors, Mr. Charles Harvey. The other artists are Mr. Alf. Maynall, who meets with a warm welcome on his first return to the scene of many successes since the war; Mr. Jack Vincent, tenor; Miss Nellie Grennan, soprano; Miss Nancy Grennan, soubrette; Miss Ruth Beaumont, fun provoker; and Mr. Will Thorburn, at the piano. Mr. Charles Harvey is not only a host in himself, but he is backed up by brother and sister players alive with the talent which appeals to a laughter-loving clientèle.

Bag o' Tricks.

Mr. Tom Sutton's concert party, Bag o' Tricks, opened Feldman's latest enterprise, Bohemia. The company is quite new to Douglas, and should have a prosperous season, as their programme is original and full of promise.

The Mountebanks.

The Mountebanks are very great favourites with Douglas residents and visitors alike, and their season at the Gaiety has been looked forward to with great pleasure. Mr. Jimmy Allan is the life and soul of an excellent entertainment, and he is sincerely supported by Miss Billy Bates, Miss Blanche Wildish, Miss Gertrude Dickenson, Mr. Leonard Thorney, Mr. Harold Andrews, and Mr. Harry Ruming, who presents the show. The songs, acts, interludes, are not only original, but spiced with wit and fantasy. The songs, both solos and concerted, have been chosen with care.

Feldman's Songsters.

Mr. Harold Brown, who is responsible for the show, assisted by Miss M. Hughes, Miss Margaret Russell, Mr. L. Habberton, Mr. Reg. Ewen, Mr. H. Vincent, and Mr. Eddie Walker, presents on Douglas Head twice daily, programmes which emphasise the widespread popularity of Feldman's music publishing house. The songs, as may be expected, are the latest, the acts are smart, the jokes are diverting.

The Box o' Vestas.

Mr. Fred Arnold's clever combination, the Box o' Vestas, have entered into their second week at Villa Marina with unabated success. They one and all appeal to the public that have flocked to Douglas for Carnival Week, and have prolonged their stay. The public like Mr. Arthur Forbes. They admire his nimble dancing and laugh at his smart patter. The way Mr. Allan Williams, the Welsh tenor, sings his ballads is their way. They like Miss Nell Bishop, Miss Billie Bell, Miss Margaret Stephens, Mr. Fred Payne, Mr. Victor Raymond; the whole show is cherry pie to them, and as the programmes are frequently changed there is always something new.

The Delphiniums.

Mr. Jack Fields' popular concert party, The Delphiniums, are meeting with great success in their refined and up-to-date entertainment at The Casino, in that popular South Coast resort, Littlehampton. The company comprises, besides Mr. Jack Fields, himself an excellent comedian and producer, Miss Quest Gould, a classical dancer, who possesses rare technique and dainty charm; Mr. Glen Owen, a light comedian and ragtime artist, as well as all-round producer; Miss Mollie Denton, a charming comedienne, instrumentaliste, and monologue artist; and Mr. Jack Barlow, the well-known basso, who also officiates at the piano. Vocalists are found in Mr. Sam Woodin, one of the sweetest-voiced tenors we have heard, and Miss Gertrude Martyn, an excellent soprano. Concerted items, burlesques, duets, trios, &c., are strong features, and so are the songs by Mr. Woodin, with instrumental accompaniment by Miss Mollie Denton.

The Ver(e)y Lights.

Messrs. W. G. Warner and H. O. Fletcher's concert party, the Ver(e)y Lights, have opened for a summer season at Hexham, Northumberland. As it is the first concert party that has appeared in the town since the outbreak of the war, great interest is taken by the inhabitants, and the two performances that are given daily draw large audiences. A "special" night is held every Friday, and the ordinary programme is varied at every performance. The Ver(e)y Lights were originally the concert party of the 20th Division, and the male members remain unchanged. Their first performance was given at Corbie, on the Somme, where they were produced by Captain J. H. Gilbey. At the conclusion of their present season, on August 31, they will go on tour. The company includes Ralph Ne-vard, Harry Fletcher, Freddie Baker, Dave Oliver, Miss Maud Carroll, Miss Lilian Sisson, and Miss Irene Powell. Their repertoire programme includes most of the latest songs, and their concerted items are exceptionally good.

"The Bondonas"

The Keith Prowse Costume Concert Party, "The Bondonas," have just completed a highly successful engagement at the Sandhurst College, where they were specially booked. This week they are continuing their success at Lea's Pavilion, Folkestone, and the week following are at Leamington. After a return to London, they open at Deal for the whole season on July 5th.

Battersea Park Alfrescos

Mr. George Robinson's Concerts are proving a big success this season, a gratifying result, undoubtedly due to the fact that the audiences are being entertained by the pick of the London Concert Parties. The "Merry Dominoes" and the "Humourettes" were the parties engaged last week, and both companies are to be congratulated on the splendid "shows" given. The recepits on the Saturday were a record for Battersea.

The Summits.

The Summits, who are holding the boards this week at the Leas Pavilion, Folkestone, are providing capital and varied programmes, and have already won many admirers with their vivacious style, delightful songs, and dainty dancing. There were repeated encores for every artist, and vociferous applause greeted all numbers. The artists are the Misses Ivy Westalny, Margaret Dam, Bertha Callen, Loir Miln, Messrs. Albert Lyon, Edgar Sawyer, and Jack Thomas.

Morecambe.

The concert parties here are the Wavelets (Harbour Pavilion), Merry Japs (New Pavilion), Society Six (Central Pier), and the Fuzees (Sandylands Pavilion).

The Ramblers.

A show full of vaudeville gems is being offered to appreciative audiences by The Ramblers at the Paddock Gardens, Guildford, this week. The combination includes Clarice Clare, who possesses a soprano voice of great beauty; Elsa May, a soubrette of considerable charm and a dainty dancer; Eric Tessington, purveyor of light comedy and instrumental items; Harry Hanson, quickly popular with some excellent comedy; Griff Hodson, a comedian rare and refreshing; Alex. Watson, baritone, whose items were received with favour; and Laura Beckett, an artist at the piano.

Box o' Dominoes.

Miss B. M. Billcliffe is presenting the Box o' Dominoes Concert Party at Harry Leslie's Rusholme Pavilion, Manchester, this week. It is a clever, well-arranged and artistic combination, the talent comprising Percy Mavis, comedian and dancer; Phyllis Sinclair, soprano; Dorothea Gould, comedienne; Mona Helene, soubrette and Dancer, Wilson Moore, Baritone; Bert Moreland, comedian and dancer; and Max Whittaker, pianist. An extensive repertory includes many attractive and popular numbers.

The Novelties.

The Novelties, a talented concert party, are at the Connaught Hall, Worthing, this week. Included in the party are Miss Margaret Glanville and Mrs. Harry East, both of whom are great favourites at Worthing.

Cheerful Clacton.

Clacton intends to be second to none in their musical arrangements this season, for there is no dearth of excellent entertainments. The Corporation offers the leading military bands at their new Pavilion, a vocalist being provided weekly to supply additional attraction to the programme, and Mr. Victor Marmont, that accomplished accompanist, has been engaged for the season to officiate at the piano.

On the Pier are to be found Will Pepper's White Coons again, and the fun is fast and furious here with two such able comedians as Frank Hook, whose name is a household word at Clacton, since he has appeared here so many seasons before, and Wal Barker, an equally able comedy merchant.

At the West Cliff Gardens, Will Bentley and Bert Graham continue to shine, and this season they have a particularly good party, including, as it does, Norman Long, that amusing entertainer at the piano, Elsie Redfern, a charming soprano, and a very clever comedienne and child impersonator, Miss Melanie Castelle.

Whitley Bay.

Ernest Gittin's party occupy the Kursaal this week. A feature of their entertainment is the presentation of "pocket operas" in one or two scenes. These include "Maritana," "Il Travatore," "Daughter of the Regiment," "Bohemian Girl," and "Martha." The artists include Oneenie Forbes, M. Vulcaris, and Fred Willet.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.

THE COMPINSKY RECITAL.

The association of Sara and Emanuel Compinsky in a pianoforte and violin recital at Æolian Hall on Wednesday was productive of happy results. Both players have youth on their side, and the fresh outlook that accompanies youth, besides a full share of talent and well-directed skill. And so their performance of Brahms' Sonata in G had many pleasing and effective moments, even if it wanted for some measure of the breadth and authority that only maturity can give. The pianist's playing of some solo pieces showed a very neat and delicate touch and a fluent and flexible execution. Ernst's Concerto in F sharp minor and Vieuxtemps' Fantasia Appassionata were the violinist's contributions to the programme. In these, too, he displayed a virile, clean-cut style, and a tone that has plenty of volume as well as beauty of quality. Slight technical flaws due to nervousness were more than compensated for by his musicianly phrasing and by the warmth of feeling that underlies his playing. Mr. Roger Yalowicz was a discreet accompanist at the piano.

A LEIGHTON HOUSE RECITAL.

Miss Gwenhilda Birketi, a young and highly accomplished violoncellist, whose playing has often been favourably commented upon, was heard again last Thursday in a recital at Leighton House. Miss Birketi's characteristics include a fine, full and expressive tone, a big technique, and a sense of poetry that enabled her to realise the full beauty of Boëllmann's Variations Symphoniques. Her programme further included Rubenstein's Op. 18, in which she had the able assistance of Miss Isabel Bedlington at the piano, and some of her own clever compositions for the 'cello. Mr. Horace Witty contributed very pleasant singing.

A STREATHAM GARDEN FETE.

Two perfect days' enjoyment were supplied at the garden fête given in the grounds of Coventry Hall, Streatham, on Friday and Saturday, in aid of the funds for liquidating the debt on the Church of the English Martyrs. Contributory causes to the gratifying result attained were supplied by the entertainments given under the direction of Miss Mary Williams. Friday's list comprised:—Miss Gertrude Maxted, soprano; Miss Gwynne Pearce, soprano; Mrs. Criese, contralto; Miss Gwendolin Tallent, dancer; Mr. John Dean, baritone; Mr. Morland Hay, entertainer; Mr. M. Howlett, humorist; and Miss G. Bacro, violiniste.

On Saturday the entertainment was supplied by Misses Ethel, Mary, and Alice Williams, in solos, duets, and trios; Mr. Marsden Williams, bass; Miss Jean Frauberg, violinist; Mr. Leonard Harris, entertainer; Mr. Joseph Donovan, tenor; Mr. Leonard Rogers, baritone; and Miss Adrienne Paret, dansense. Miss Winifred Williams accompanied with her usual excellence.

A Prestidigitateur de Luxe.

Another concert artist who appears to be forging ahead is that clever conjurer Herbert J. Collings, who returned to Maskelyne's Theatre of Mystery last Monday for a three weeks' stay, followed immediately by a short season, from July 12 to September 4, with Herman Darewski at Southend-on-Sea. Herbert, who, by the way, entertained his comrades during many a dull moment while he served with the Artists Rifles, has many skilful tricks all his own, and his abundance of sparkling wit makes them doubly attractive. There are few members of the Royal Family or the society circles that he has not entertained and amused.

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TOURING CONCERT PARTIES.

NAME.	PROPRIETOR.	JUNE 21.	JUNE 28.	* NEXT VACANCY.
ARCADY		Barry.	Penarth.	
BOX OF DOMINOES	Miss E. M. Billcliffe	Lester's Pav., Rusholme.	Pavilion, South Shields.	
BREVITY	Richard Jerome	Coronation Hall, Ulverston.	North Pier, Blackpool.	
BUBBLES		Kursaal, Whitby Bay.	Empire, Redcar.	
CHUMS	Tom E. Roma	S. P. Pier, Southsea.	Corporation Pks., Glasgow.	
COLOUR	E. B. Crampton	Felixstowe.	Sheringham.	
FRILLS & FLOUNCES	Miss E. M. Billcliffe	Pavilion, Seaforth.	Roath Park, Cardiff.	
GAIETIES	Wilson James	Pier, Bournemouth.	Pier, Bournemouth.	
GYPSIES	Gane & Morley	Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.	Pavilion, Barry Island.	
HILARITY OF 1920	Harry Bright	Clarence Pier, Southsea.	Clarence Pier, Southsea.	
JOLLITY	Richard Jerome	Arcadia, Leeds.	Ang. Palace, Burton-on-Trent.	
JOVIAL JOLLIES	Bert Grapho	New Theatre, Crewe.	(Summer Season).	
JOY	Mackenzie Lee	Stowhill Pavilion, Newport, Mon.	Gardens, Norwich.	
LESLIE'S NOBODIES		Spa Opera House, Bridlington.	Arcadia, Leeds.	
MAIDS AND MIDDIES	Tom Percival	Roath Park, Cardiff.	De Valence Gdns., Tenby.	
MISCHIEF	Vaudeville Enterprises	Pier Pavilion, Penarth.	Lowestoft.	
MOUNTEBANKS	Harry Ruming	Gaiety Theatre, Douglas.	Palace, Douglas.	
OPTIMISTS	Will Catlin	Arcadia Theatre, Llandudno.	(Summer Season).	
PAN				
PIERROT PIE	Heslop & Ribll	Pierrotland, Bognor.	(Summer Season).	
P.P.P.	Gane & Morley	King's Hall, Herne Bay.	Arcadia, Southend.	
PUNCHINELLI	Gane & Morley		Huddersfield.	
QUALITIES	Miss Edyth Dare	Arcadia, Sandown, I.O.W.	(Summer Season).	
REVELRY	Cecil Ward & Tom Wright	Sun Pav., Kingston-on-Thames.	(Summer Season).	
ROGUES	F. Roper & Bart Brady			
ROYAL VAUDEVILLIANS	Percy H. Holmshaw	Coronation Gdns., Leyton.	Tunbridge Wells.	
SUPERBS	Will Ambro	Spring Gardens, Norwich.	Olym. Gardens, Lowestoft.	
SUPREMACY	D. Gilbert & A. Wallen	North Pier, Blackpool.	Pavilion, Rusholme, Southend.	
TOPICS	Scott & Reekie	Southend.		
WITS, THE	Richard Jerome	Pier Pavilion, St. Annes.	H.M., Barrow-in-Furness.	

* The charge for inserting date of next Vacancy in this column is 1/- per insertion prepaid.

FROM THE PROVINCES.

NOTES AND NEWS OF TOURING PLAYS.

ABERYSTWYTH.

ROYAL PIER PAVILION.—L. & M., Mr. J. F. Younge.—Mr. Harry Bright presents his successful production, "Hilarity," including the following cast:—Sammie Esden, June Adair, Herbert Kelly, Mollie Aldridge, Beatrice Betts, John Harris, and Jack May.
Boots, The Chemists, 1-4, The Arcade, Terrace-road.

ACCRINGTON.

GRAND.—P., Victory Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Fred W. Green; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. Haworth.—Mr. Eric Francis presents the comedy, "Bought and Paid For."
NEW HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Donald O. Clark; Mus. D., Mr. Jas. Taylor.—Arch. Hill, tenor vocalist, heads the bill here. Other turns include G. H. Charlton, a smart conjurer; Hetty Ruby, comedienne; Tiny Paynola, a mimic; Billy Sunday, comedian; the Wiltons, in a clever equilibristic turn; and Will Cummings and Partner, in an excellent comedy act.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. and M., Mr. Chas. Revill; A. M., Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—The Australian Entertainers are occupying the stage here with their unique show, which includes music, comedy, and character impersonations.
EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—P., W. H. Broadhead and Son; G. M., H. Winstanley; A. M., Jno. Boyle.—Reg. Bolton, comedian, tops a good variety programme here. Pauline Travis, male impersonator; Brandoy and Smith, in song and cross-talk; Rosalie Hamilton, comedienne; the De Dions, amusing comedy "Bikests"; Megan Bros., syncopated songsters; the Sutcliffe Family, musical entertainers.
Boots, The Chemists, 140, Old-st.

FRANK VARNEY & TEDDIE BUTT
in new act by R. P. WESTON & BERT LEE.
Next week—HOLBORN EMPIRE

BATLEY.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—G. M., Mr. Perci Leonard; Mus. D., Mr. A. E. Hirst.—Harry Gill presents "The Ruby of Rangee"; Gill and Gill, Rainbow Girls, Len Drew, Walter Dunn.

BELFAST.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Director of Entertainments, Mr. D. J. Clarke; R. M., Mr. George Dobler; Mus. D., Mr. John D. Fowler.—Mr Albert Whelan, the Australian entertainer, is on a return visit; and the Ten Loonies, in their act, are always welcome. Enid Cruikshank and May Watson, in operatic numbers. Also billed are Brothers Walsh, two happy songsters; The Four Wards, male voice quartette; Harry Gunn, comedian; Mr. Willie Gardner, in extraordinary dances; and Alma Le Dare, comedian.
EMPIRE.—L., Mr. Barney Armstrong; G. M., Mr. Vincent Potter; R. M., Mr. Jack Mathers.—The leading attraction is provided by Carton Andrews and Wray, who please with humour and harmony; The Palmyra Goss Trio stage their novel speciality; Calland and Hooper are retained for another week; Barry O'Neill appears in his monologue, "The Land of Children's Dreams"; the Three Laurels stage their speciality act. Also billed are Charles Sherwin, popular entertainer; Wenda Chard, the singing gipsy; and Vi Romaine, favourite chorus vocalist.
NEW ALHAMBRA.—G. M., Mr. W. Gibson Bradley.—Vaudeville here by the Spencers, comedy duo; and The Prohmans, up-to-date musical entertainers.

BILSTON.

ROYAL & HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; R. M., Mr. Fred Rothery-Billis.—Messrs. Bean Enterprises present the musical melange "High Steppers."

FRANK VARNEY & TEDDIE BUTT
in new act by R. P. WESTON & BERT LEE.
Next week—HOLBORN EMPIRE

BLACKHEAD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P. & M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Hal Lloyd; Mus. D., Mr. Louis Burgess.—A spirited performance of the naval play, "The Coastguard's Daughter," is presented by Mr. Alfred Denville's company, the principal rôles being admirably enacted by Miss Kate Saville and Mr. Jack McCaig.
ARGYLE THEATRE.—Sole P. & M., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. H. O'Neill; Mus. D., Mr. J. Whitelock.—Jack and Evelyn, the popular vaudeville artists, head a capital combination, which also includes Jack Thomas, a resourceful comedian; Zetta Mor, a male impersonator; Damsell and Boy, juggling equilibrists; We Three (Susie Belmore, Vera Vere, and Dorothy Belmore), a vivacious trio; Ben Warris, comedian; Ernest St George, the vocal enigma; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.
HIPPODROME.—Sole P. & M., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. Chas. Eastwood; Mus. D., Mr. J. Whitelock. Laura Guerite, an accomplished comedienne, is the premier attraction; Will Hay and company, in their amusing burlesque, "Find the Beetle," are also a favourite turn; and other prominent turns comprise Miss Jean Andrews, a soprano vocalist; Day and Healey, comedians; Mezetti and Lusby, gymnasts; Jack Riskit and Betty, in a conversational comedy act; Billy and Doris Harley, expert dancers; and Caprice Proud, comedienne and eccentric dancer.
Boots, The Chemists, 239-241, Grange-road

FRANK VARNEY & TEDDIE BUTT
in new act by R. P. WESTON & BERT LEE.
Next week—HOLBORN EMPIRE

BLACKPOOL.

OPERA HOUSE. — R. M., Mr. J. R. Huddlestone; A. M., Mr. W. T. Russell; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Greenhalgh.—Louise Alcott's story of "Little Women" is being presented in its dramatic form this week, with Ailsa Grahame as Jo.
GRAND.—R. M., Mr. George Harrop; A. M., Mr. T. Hopcutt; Mus. D., Mr. T. Southworth. — A return visit of Walter Howard's war play, "Seven Days' Leave," is being paid here.
PALACE.—R. M., Mr. George Harrop; A. M., Mr. Fred Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Jepson.—The variety programme is headed by Monty Cash, with Niblo and Doris, Orpheus Trio, Fred Hutchings, Marcus Mutt and Jeff, Doris Ashton, and the Pall Malls also on the bill.
Boots, The Chemists, 12-18, Market-street; Church-street; and Station-road.

BOSCOMBE.

HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Claude E. Marner; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Leake.—Bert Gilbert, Hannah Jones, and company, in the sketch, "A Dark White Horse," head an excellent bill, which includes Thornley Dodge, Pearl Mitchell, Wells and Eclair Twins, and Les Eldons.
Boots, The Chemists, Salisbury Buildings, Christchurch-road.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL—Sole P., Messrs. David Allen & Sons; Sole L., Mme. Gertrude Mouillot; R. M., Mr. Hubert Dunbar; Mus. D., Mr. Tom Brown. — Miss Marie Lohr's principal company are paying a return visit in "Nurse Benson."
Boots, The Chemists, 108, Commercial-road; 76-78, Old Christchurch-road; 50, Charminster-road; 302, Holdenhurst-road, 20-22, Southbourne-grove.

BURNLEY.

EMPIRE.—P., Victoria Opera House Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—John C. Jazon, in the musical revue, "Have You Got Me?"
PALACE.—P., Burnley Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Rintoul.—Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic, and his piano; A. D. Robbins, the Canadian cycle tamer, and his company; Mart and Pep, acrobatic hand and head balancers; F. M. Rollinston and Co. in a comedy, "The Sleepwalker"; Lieut. Gordon, comedy ventriloquist; Kisbey, the callboy; Evelyn Tyser, with a violin.
Boots, The Chemists, 90, St. James-st

FRANK VARNEY & TEDDIE BUTT
in new act by R. P. WESTON & BERT LEE.
Next week—HOLBORN EMPIRE

OPERA HOUSE. — P., Buxton Gardens Co. Ltd.; Sec. & G. M., Mr. F. A. Hastings; Mus. D., Mr. G. F. Burgiss. — Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Dudley Stuart's company, "A Butterfly on the Wheel"; Thursday, Friday, Saturday, J. Bannister Howard's company, "The Belle of New York."
HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Mr. Allan Milton; Mus. D., Mr. Reg. Goddard.—Delaney and Lee, novelty dancers; Hector and Doreen, latest novelty turns; pictures, &c.
THE PICTURE HOUSE.—P., Mr. Allan Milton; R. M., Mr. George Taylor; Mus. D., Miss E. L. Mainwood; G.S.M.—Continuous exhibition daily.
Boots, The Chemists, 45-50, Spring-gardens.

CARDIFF.

NEW.—Sole P. and M., Mr. Robert Redford; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Angle.—The new play, "The Prince Chap."
EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. C. T. Hutchison; Mus. D., Mr. David Griffiths.—Betty Barclay and George Glover, in new successes; Nelson Keys, the popular revue artist, assisted by Miss June; Paul Roey's Accordion Ensemble; Fred Rex and Co., in "Josser, K.C."; Allan Shaw, comedy juggler; The Yamayama Troupe of Japanese Wonders; and La Maze Trio, comedy artists.
Boots, The Chemists, 36, Queen-st.; 31, Albany-rd.

CARLISLE.

HER MAJESTY'S.—L. and G. M., Mr. Ernest Stevens; M., Miss McBride.—Walter Saltoun presents "Soiled."
PALACE.—P., Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit, Ltd.; M., Mr. J. D. Askew.—W. H. Squire, Lily Fairney, Auriol Jones, Marie Lawton, Lily Eyton, Billy French, El Ray, W. P. Wentley, Walton and Lester.
Boots, The Chemists, 49, English-street.

FRANK VARNEY & TEDDIE BUTT
in new act by R. P. WESTON & BERT LEE.
Next week—HOLBORN EMPIRE

CASTLEFORD.

QUEEN'S. — P., Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Will F. Emerson.—Gus Fowler, the Watch King; Miller L. Canning, Billy Stephens, Bertie, musical comedy; Molly Maguire, soprano; Five Vital Sparks, vocal; Jack Lord, musical; Charlie Forde, comedian.

DOUGLAS, I.O.M.

PALACE.—P., Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Charles Fox; A. M., Mr. Arthur Brittain.—There is an excellent variety programme presented every evening at the Coliseum. The artists include Peter Donald and Meta Carson; J. H. Scotland; Fred and May, in their speciality act; Houp La, Lauri Howard, The Milton Brothers, The Davona Trio, and the De Wynne Brothers.
VILLA MARINA.—P., The Douglas Corporation; M., Mr. Noah Moore; Mus. D., M. Felix Godin.—The great musical attraction here is the Canadian Choir, also Mr. Fred Arnold's Box of Vestas.
Boots, The Chemists, Victoria-street and Duke-street.

DOVER.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. S. W. Winter; R. M., Mr. C. Taylor Lawson; M. C., Mr. W. Medhurst.—Will Gibson presents his mystic musical burlesque, "Cayenne." In the last act, Query appears in her thought-reading act.
KING'S HALL (PICTURES).—R. M., Mr. R. Fisher.—Owen Taylor, tenor.
Boots, The Chemists, 11, Cannon-street.

FRANK VARNEY & TEDDIE BUTT
in new act by R. P. WESTON & BERT LEE.
Next week—HOLBORN EMPIRE

DUNDEE.

KING'S.—P., Dundee Theatres, Ltd.; M. D. & Licensee, Mr. W. Firth; D. & M., Mr. J. H. Oakden; M. D., Mr. Wm. Hartley.—Witt and Stevens, a very entertaining couple, top the bill here; and other excellent turns are the Belgian Anserouls, with a display of double and treble somersaults; Stewart Morton, in his coon character studies, assisted by Maisie Wood; Dale and O'Malley, comedians; the Two Canadians, expert instrumentalists; Maher and Langford, who talk and dance; and Mackey and Cecil, in their diverting burlesque, "Spanish Love"; and pictures.
QUEEN'S.—P., Mr. Arthur Henderson.—Vaudeville here by McIvor and Scott, dancers; and P. P. Bell, comedian. Pictures complete.
KINNAIRD PICTURE HOUSE.—P., Messrs. Hamilton Bros.; M., Mr. Victor Hamilton; Mus. D., Mr. H. E. Loseby.—A delightful programme here comprises selections by Mr. H. E. Loseby's symphony orchestra; solos by the Misses Loseby; grand organ selections by Mr. Peters; and pictures.
Boots, The Chemists, 14, Reform-street.

GAINSBOROUGH.

KING'S THEATRE. — L., Mr. Arthur Carlton; R. M., Mr. Stanley Hooper; M. D., Mr. J. Breeze.—Edward Bleriot's company in the musical comedy, "Buzz Along."
Boots, The Chemists, 30, Market-place.

GREENOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—P. and M., Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright; Mus. D., Mr. James Murchie. — The Scottish Revues Syndicate presents the successful revue, "Bobo."
Boots, The Chemists, 24, Hamilton-st.

HEBBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—R. M., Mr. Rennie.—Blanco, the tramp violinist; and pictures.

HUDDERSFIELD.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. J. Alban Newton.—Louis Corlette presents "Gay Bohemia," Parisian musical comedy.
PALACE. — M., Mr. Herbert Garside. — The English Ballet (under the direction of Alfred Haines) in repertoire; Melt and Bray, excellent comics; Thora, in ventriloquial sketch; Jack Byrne, comedian; the Fieldes, in gymnastic novelty; Three Walkers, in equilibristic act; Violet Vaughan Trio, in their new act, entitled "Melody and Rags."
Boots, The Chemists, 16-18, King-street.

ILKESTON.

COLISEUM.—Jimmy Wood in "Touch Wood."
Boots, The Chemists, 122-124, Bath-street.

KEIGHLEY.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. Francis Laidler; M., Mr. J. Austin Walshaw; Mus. D., Mr. W. Lupton.—The star turn this week is provided by David Poole, ventriloquist. Other turns are Haig Bros. and Ryan, entertainers; Rose and Wald, wire act; Kitty Storrow, comedienne; Percy Brand, coon artist; the Astleys, musical act; and Tubby Turner and Partner, eccentric comedians.
Boots, The Chemists, 58, Cavendish-street.

KING'S LYNN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. F. H. Cooper; R. M., Mr. R. Gerald Balls.—The third week of Sydney Bransgrove repertory season opened on Monday with the comedy, "Dora Stays the Night."
Boots, The Chemists, 43-44, High-street.

KINGSTON.

EMPIRE.—P. and M., Mr. Clarence Sonnes; A. M., Mr. Jack Gladwin; R. M., Mr. R. T. Doe; Mus. D., Mr Eric Marco.—A strong variety bill this week consists of the Six Brothers Luck in their latest success, "Film Stars." Marie Terry, vocalist and comedienne; Ethel Goode, ballad vocalist; Charlie Rich, comedian and raconteur; Pic and Young, Ad., in droll Lih Jazz; and the Empire Gazette complete the programme.
Boots, The Chemists, 15, Market-place.

LEAMINGTON SPA.

ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. C. Watson Mill; M.-D., Isaac Hudson.—Jack Goodson's musical production, "Hello, America!"
CORPORATION SUMMER CONCERTS.—Keith Prowse and Co., Ltd., present "The Bondonas," a new costume combination.
COLONNADE THEATRE.—R. M., Mr. John Halifax.—Variety, Maurice and Griffithe, Dolly Lang, and pictures.
Boots, The Chemists, 162, The Parade.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole P. and M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. W. R. King; Mus. D., Mr. Walter W. Waddington.—Messrs. Herbert Jay and Frank Littler's company provide an excellent attraction her with "A Temporary Gentleman."
THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P. and M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. W. R. King; A. M., Mr. Will L. Clement; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Vann.—"What is Home Without a Mother?" is being staged here by Miss Amee Grattan-Clynes and Mr. Walter Saltoun's capital company.

FRANK VARNEY & TEDDIE BUTT
in new act by R. P. WESTON & BERT LEE.
Next week—HOLBORN EMPIRE

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. M., Sir Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Trueman Towers; Asst. A. M., Mr. Thomas J. Phillips; Mus. D., Mr. John W. Lowe.—An excellent entertainment is headed by George Mozart, in types of everyday life. Frank and Vesta's clever dancing makes a hit, and Sandy Powell's comicalities create plenty of merriment. Alexander Prince's concertina playing meets with the usual success, and Ajax and Emily are excellent in their tit-bits from vaudeville. Gaston Palmer presents a fine show as a juggler, and the smart Japanese child, Otora San, dances and sings successfully. Pictures complete.
PAVILION THEATRE.—P., The Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit, Ltd.; B. M., Mr. Joseph Lawrence; Mus. Dd., Mr. Fred Britcher. Miss Kit Tom's company are presenting an exhilarating entertainment here with the musical comedy show, "The Dollar Baby."
Boots, The Chemists, 9, Belvoir-st.; 301, Belgrave-gate.

LEITH.

ALHAMBRA.—M. D., Mr. Henry Lees; R. M., Mr. James Cousins; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Smith—Under the name of "Guess the Title," a smart revue is presented here by a company of experts, among whom Billy Walters, Alice Barr, Kitty Evelyn, and Lester and Wood are in prominent rôles.
Boots, The Chemists, 15, Leith-walk.

FRANK VARNEY & TEDDIE BUTT
in new act by R. P. WESTON & BERT LEE.
Next week—HOLBORN EMPIRE

LUTON.

PALACE.—M. D., Messrs. L. Lyons and J. Hart; R. M., Mr. Percy Hart.—Zellini, burlesque juggler; Elsie Denham, comedienne; Dave Bryant, Hebrew comedian; Loie Conn, in musical speciality; and Daly and Marr, novelty entertainers.
GRAND.—L. & M., Mr. E. Graham Falcon; B. M., Mr. W. Sullivan.—The burlesque revue, "All Over the Shop."
Boots, The Chemists, 27, George-st.

NEATH.

PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. E. Gilley; Mus. D., Mr. Edgar Lewis.—The Laurelsa Quintette, in vocal and dancing act; Tom B. Wheatley, the railway ventriloquist, also appears; and pictures complete.
GNOLL HALL.—P., Gnoll Picture and Variety Co., Ltd.—Sec., Mr. Glyn Gething; M., Mrs. L. Trueman; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. E. Hutchins. — Amac, assisted by Mlle. Velma, appears in a series of apparent miracles; the Decunas, versatile entertainers; and pictures.
Boots, The Chemists, 55, Wind-street.

NEWPORT.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. R. H. Gillespie; M., Mr. J. H. Milburn.—Talbot O'Farrell, Wee Georgie Wood, Grossman and Winters, Josie O'Meers, Horace Wheatley, Newport and Stirk, Rosie Reys.
Boots, The Chemists, 13, Commercial-st.

FRANK VARNEY & TEDDIE BUTT
in new act by R. P. WESTON & BERT LEE.
Next week—HOLBORN EMPIRE

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE. — P., Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. & S., Mr. S. C. Dorrill; Asst. M., Mr. W. P. Smith; Mus. D., Mr. C. F. Trevor.—Messrs. Philip Braham and Campbell, Ltd., are presenting here the musical success, "Buzz-Buzz." The tour is under the direction of Ivan Campbell. The theatre will be closed from June 28, reopening on Monday, July 26, for a season of twice-nightly varieties and plays.
Boots, The Chemists, 1, Queen-st., and 128, St. Aldate's, Carfax.

PAISLEY.

THEATRE.—S. P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. Harry W. Pinchon; Mus. D., Mr. Bert W. Stephens.—Mr. Graham Moffat's company in "The Concealed Bed"; Hassan and Lady, in magical act; Jack Delaine, mimic and entertainer; Billy Vardel Trio, comedy acrobats; Frank Wilson, versatile musician; Mathieson and Gow, vocal and comedy entertainers; and McGregor and Hood, comedians and dancers.
RINK PICTURE AND VARIETY PALACE.—S. P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. D. W. Reid; Mus. D., Mr. Felix Hamilton.—The Hutchesons, singers and dancers; Ivor Price, Welsh tenor vocalist; the Two Dents, dancers and comedians; and pictures.

FRANK VARNEY & TEDDIE BUTT
in new act by R. P. WESTON & BERT LEE.
Next week—HOLBORN EMPIRE

PENTRE.

GRAND.—P. and M., Mr. W. E. Willis; Mus. D., Mr. Fred French.—A smart variety programme includes Little Hackenschmidt, champion bantam wrestler; Ivor Thomas and Arthur Stevens, comedians of "Abe" fame; Slater and Rene, the coon and the comical kid; Three Dixon Girls, in dancing, singing, and harmony; Baker and Balfe, musical wonders and dancers; Jasper and Murphy, comedy couple; George Jackson, yodel singing ventriloquist; Charlie Sydney, dame comedian; and Vic Loving, male impersonator, and her girl assistant.

SALFORD.

PALACE (LATE REGENT THEATRE). —P., The Salford Palace, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Alan Young; R. M., Mr. Bert Vasco; A. M., Mr. Horace Cooke.—Tom Edwards, assisted by Miss Alice Melville; Nolan and Holt (Franka and Louis), Anna Hana, The Mahers, Rose Beryl, Winifred Bywodes, The Flemings.
ROYAL HIPPODROME. — P., Messrs. Wm. Hy. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Bernardo.—"Heads or Tails," presented by Gerard Productions, and including Geo. Norton and Lynn Wright.

FRANK VARNEY & TEDDIE BUTT
in new act by R. P. WESTON & BERT LEE.
Next week—HOLBORN EMPIRE

SHEFFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. and T. M., J. E. B. Beaumont.—Messrs. Harold Wagner and Herbert Shardon present this week a domestic drama, entitled "Disgraced." On Friday next will be staged "The Son of a Thief."
EMPIRE PALACE.—The Empires Ltd.; M. D., Mr. R. H. Gillespie; A. M., Mr. R. Sidebotham.—The programme includes the Two Bobs, popular vocalists, etc.; the Martinis; Fred Curran, comedian; Barrett and Knowles, comedians; Mazus and Mazette; Rich Hayes, comedian; the Sisters Reeve; and pictures.
HIPPODROME, LTD.—R. M., Mr. H. C. Savage.—Gabriella Ray, in a series of musical scenes, with Leslie Barker and child artists. Also appearing this week are Milton Hayes, comedian; the Two Tomboys, funny comics; Charles Grantley; Bros. Huxtor; and M'Lita Dolores, in a delightful act.
Boots, The Chemists, 55 and 57, Snig-hill; 252-54, West-street, and 2, Regent-street; 599, Attercliffe-road; 7, Netherthorpe-place; 97, South-street; 34, 36, Spital-hill; 224, Shalesmoor; 183, Attercliffe-common; 750-2-4, Attercliffe-road; 440, Abbeydale-road; 207, Broomhall-street; 6, High-street; 2-4, Duke-street Park; 514-18, London-road, Heeley Bridge; 202, South-street, Moor; 652, Staniforth-road, Darnall; 139, Newbould-lane, Broomhill; 3-5, Middle-road, Hillsborough; 212, London-road.

SOUTHPORT.

PALLADIUM.—M. D., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. R. Singleton.—Bransby Williams is here on a welcome return visit, and conspicuous in a good programme are Barrett and Knowles, comedians; Miss Mary Leighton, soprano; the Fuji Troupe of acrobats and gymnasts; Marcus, ventriloquist; Damsell and Boy; Horner and James; and Mabel Costello.
PAVILION THEATRE. — Sole L., Mr. G. W. Bell; A. M., Mr. J. Thomson.—The attraction here is Fred Karno's production, "Money to Burn."
Boots, The Chemists, 383-391, Lord-street; 10-12, Nevill-street; 2-26, Chapel-street.

FRANK VARNEY & TEDDIE BUTT
in new act by R. P. WESTON & BERT LEE.
Next week—HOLBORN EMPIRE

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. John W. Coulson; R. M., Mr. Wm. C. Hill Black; Mus. D., Mr. G. Whittington.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company appears in a revival of "The Face at the Window." Mr. Charles H. Lester appears as Le Loup, the Wolf.
EMPIRE.—P., South Shields Empire Palace Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; R. M., Mr. Edwin Winter; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Campbell.—Tom E. Hughes, the rag-bag of variety; Lily Morris, the popular comedienne; Brothers O'Gorman, comedians; Bob Anderson and his polo pony; Thompson and Walker, musical entertainers, assisted by Joyce Browne, violiniste; Flying Banyards, sensational gymnasts; and Brinn and Partner, in sensation and comedy.
QUEEN'S.—P., Borough Theatre (South Shields) Co., Ltd.; Mus. D., Mr. James Todd.—The Royal Welsh Ladies Choir appears in an up-to-date vaudeville programme; and pictures.
PALACE.—P., High Shields Palace Theatre Co.; M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; R. M., Mr. John McCall; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Verd.—The Six Olracs, gymnastic comedians; George Eames, Sh. Dunstan's blind magnet, in songs and monologues; and pictures.
PIER PAVILION (under the clock).—L. & M., Mr. F. Marriott-Watson and Capt. Julian Bainbridge.—The season opens with a visit of The Queens Costume Concert Party, presented by Mr. George V. Kelly.
Boots, The Chemists, 39, King-street.

STIRLING.

ALHAMBRA. M. D., Mr. Fred Collins; R. M., Mr. Geo. Paulton; Mus. D., Mr. Jas. Running.—Mr. Fred Collins's revue, "Bachles and Herrin'."
OLYMPIA.—G. M., Mr. Jack M. Calder; R. M., Mr. Edmund Frobisher; Mus. D., Mr. W. F. Gillies. — Doroswami, Indian musician; Alec Main, baritone.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—P., St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Harry E. Johnson; Mus. D., Mr. Ireton.—W. E. Curtis and Billy Leo offer "Sweet Fanny Adams."
HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodrome (St. Helens), Ltd.; L. & M., Mr. J. B. Lloyd.; Mus. D., Mr. Galston.—Six Musical Navvies, Ruby le Drury, Bristow Bros. Cliff Barrett, Jock Holden Carl Howard, and Fuji Family.
Boots, The Chemists, 6-8, Ormskirk-street.

FRANK VARNEY & TEDDIE BUTT
in new act by R. P. WESTON & BERT LEE.
Next week—HOLBORN EMPIRE

STOCKPORT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—S. O. and M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. Cyril D. Revill; R. M. and S., Mr. John Revill.—R. and W. Ainsley present "The Movie Maid," revue.
HIPPODROME. — L., Mr. William Swire; G. M., Mr. Harry Barker.—The Diving Belles, in crystal tank; Revill and Syd. comedy duo; Caryille and Choristers, in musical scenes; Geo. Foster, comedian; MacGarvey and Seeler, in comedy scena, "Badly Sold"; Wynne Darrel, comedienne; the Ziras, entertainers.
Boots, The Chemists, 26, Bridge-street, Brow.

SWANSEA.

GRAND.—P., Messrs. David Allen and Sons; L., Mrs. Gertrude Mouillot; R. M., Mr. T. Byrne.—Miss Lena Ashwell presents "Diana of Dobson's," "Leah Kleschna," and other plays.
Boots, The Chemists, 1-2, Oxford-st.; 59-60, High-st.; 1, Gwydr-terrace, Uplands.

TONYPANDY.

EMPIRE.—P., Mr. W. E. Willis and Son; R. M., Capt. W. Willis; Mus. D., Mr. Le Roy Parr.—Arthur G. Hart presents his revue, "You're Spotted."
Boots, The Chemists, 121a, Dunraven-st.

TORQUAY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M. D., Mr. W. H. Mortimer; S., Mr. Arthur Pearse.—The re-opening this week is by Mr. Fredk. G. Lloyd's company, in "A Chinese Honeymoon."
PAVILION.—G. M. (for the Corporation), Mr. Chas. G. Price.—This week's vaudeville bill includes Goff Godfrey, May Edney, Patterson, Brandon Delmar and Company, Harry Blake, Spitari and Steve, and Yost.
Boots, The Chemists, 46-48, Fleet-st.

FRANK VARNEY & TEDDIE BUTT
in new act by R. P. WESTON & BERT LEE.
Next week—HOLBORN EMPIRE

TYNEMOUTH.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Northland Film Co.; M. D., Mr. Charles Elderton; R. M., Mr. Wm. Gibson; S. M., Mr. Oliver Turnbull; Mus. D., Mr. W. K. Moore.—The Race Week attraction is Teddy Edward's Star Vaudeville Company, including Bert Weston, in a whirl of wisdom; Bain and Hill, in novelties; Hamilton Conrad and performing pigeons; Wallan and Partner, jugglers and cyclists; Riley's Wonders; Dnig Sen Brothers, Chinese acrobats; Rovilli, the concertina king; Orton and Onley, comedy duo; Kents Trio, in "Scenes in a Café"; and George Gibson, baritone.

WATFORD.

PALACE.—M., Mr. Tom Taylor.—Sydney Bransgrove's company in "Death or Glory Boys."
Boots, The Chemists, 115, High-street.

WEYMOUTH.

PAVILION THEATRE.—L., Mr. E. Wheeler. — Miss Vera Cooke's musical comedy revue, "It's Champion, Isn't It."
Boots, The Chemists, 69-70, St. Mary-street.

FRANK VARNEY & TEDDIE BUTT
in new act by R. P. WESTON & BERT LEE.
Next week—HOLBORN EMPIRE

WHITBY.

SPA THEATRE.—R. M., Mr. Thos. Falkingbridge. — On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Mr. J. Bannister Howard presents "The Belle of New York."

WOLVERHAMPTON.

ROYAL.—P., Kimberley's, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; M., Mr. Edwin T. Kiebey; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Bradley.—Mr. W. H. Glaze's company in "Her Honour at Stake."
EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Thos. Phillips; Mus. D., Mr. B. Sorge.—Harry Thurston in "Lucky Old Bill"; Dorothy Lena; Valazzi, equilibrist and juggler; Bert Groves, comedian; Silver and Fox, comedy duo; Arthur Lewis, dancer; and O'Wray and O'Dare, comedy acrobats.
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All Objections, and the grounds therefor, must be submitted in writing to the Clerk of the Council, County Hall, Spring-gardens, S.W. 1, within 14 days from the date of publication of this advertisement.

"AS YOU LIKE IT" BY O.U.D.S.

On Saturday afternoon the Oxford University Dramatic Society produced "As You Like it" before a large audience in the garden of the Warden of Wadham College. Mr. Nigel Playfair, who kindly lent his costumes for the play, was the producer. The performance, which went with a surprising swing and finish, was especially noteworthy for Joan Buckmaster's charming portrayal of "Rosalind." She endowed the part with a graceful dignity throughout, while her comedy acting in the Forest of Arden was specially fine in its light and shade. No less worthy of praise was Pauline de Bush's rendering of Celia, her ease and grace contributing valuable support to Miss Buckmaster. As Audrey Kitty Ashton was a perfect "country wench," while Fanny Dowson seemed to have caught the spirit of Phebe.

The Orlando of G. A. Gardiner was a consistent and straightforward piece of acting; T. F. Coade made a good old man as Adam; and H. A. St. G. Saunders supplied eccentric comedy as Le Beau. M. D. Colbourne easily won sympathy as the Duke, while A. Boyle made a good impression as the usurper, Frederick. The shepherd, Corin and Silvius, found worthy exponents in D. B. Davies and A. H. Howland respectively. Probably the best sustained and the most impressive character was that of the Melancholy Jacques, most admirably played by C. K. Allen, whose delivery of the lines on the "Seven Ages" thoroughly gripped the audience with its intelligent sincerity. E. L. Bush was quite a success as the clown, Touchstone. E. C. Smith possesses a beautiful voice, which he used with telling effect as Amiens, in his rendering of "Under the Greenwood Tree," etc.; while mention must be made of the excellent little pages, R. Brawer and J. Faulkner, who sang "It Was a Lover and His Lass" very simply and naturally. The incidental music was arranged entirely from late Elizabethan sources by Arthur Bliss.

PAGEANT AT HAMPSTEAD.

A PRETTY GREEK PASTORAL.

In one thing the performance last Saturday at Hampstead of the pastoral play, "Pan Pipes at Arches," by the Play and Pageant Union of Hampstead Garden Suburb, was certainly up to the best professional standards, and that was in the matter of the costumes, and it is remarkable to reflect that they should have all been designed and made by the players and their friends.

The play was rather an anæmic effort in which the young shepherd, Daphnis, tiring of an Arcadian life, sets out for the city of Arches to seek his fortune. His friends the sylvan deities, Pan, Echo and Silenus, devise means for his protection against the world, and the last-named, assuming mortal guise, accompanies him as guide. It is fête day at Arches, and Philocrates, the usurping ruler, and his court, attend to watch the sports. With him is his niece, the Princess Irene, whose brother, the rightful king, he has driven into exile. Irene and Daphnis fall in love with one another after Orlando—or rather Daphnis—overthrows a champion wrestler and performs other feats of prowess. The Princess appeals to the townspeople to save her from Philocrates, and a tumult ensues, during which the youthful lovers escape, being assisted in the woods by Pan and Echo, who bewilder the searching soldiers with magic pipe and mocking voice. Meanwhile the populace elect Silenus as Prince Regent, and he, after giving an anti-Pussyfoot demonstration with a gargantuan cup of wine, and pronouncing weird judgment on several wrongdoers, summons the priests for the marriage of his friend Daphnis to the lovely Irene. Philocrates tries to interfere, but the entry of the "banished duke"—we mean prince—leads to his dethronement and disgrace. Public rejoicings are called for in Arches, but the youthful lovers, allured by the pipes of Pan, resolve on an Arcadian existence, and together pass into the woods.

This innocuous drama, which is by Messrs. Cyril Kelsey and P. Meadows, was interspersed with charming dances by pretty children, and well-rendered lyrics and choruses. It would have been much improved by a little more humour, the only comedy in it being that of a well-trained Irish terrier whose name was not on the programme but who enlivened the proceedings with a series of inopportune excursions from the audience which caused much amusement. The authors, who produced their own play, did it exceedingly well, and equal praise can be given to Mr. Paul Jewitt, who was responsible for the staging and rehearsals. These gentlemen were well served by their company, whose elocution, in particular, was admirable. Mr. Philip Jewitt gave a graceful and polished, though very youthful, performance as Pan, and his make-up was a "masterpiece." Daphnis, as played by Mr. John Garside, was sufficiently romantic and lover-like, which should have been, in any case, an easy task with the sweet and dainty Princess presented by Miss Isabel Lowman. Possibly the best performance in the play was the animated Talthybius of Mr. Paul Jewitt, although almost as excellent was Mr. G. W. Bishop's Philocrates. There are to be two performances of the play next Saturday, at 3.30 and 6.30 respectively.

PLAYS FOR AMATEURS.

Amateurs who are on the look-out for one-act plays suitable for outdoor performance, might find their requirements met by "The Spirit of the Pools," a summer idyll, and "The Land of Joy," by Christine Oertling, and published by Morland, Amersham, Bucks. In both plays the fairy element is predominant, and the stories are of the kind that generally begin with "once upon a time." The characters are a mixture of mortals and immortals, some of whom could only be sustained by quite youthful performers. Unpretentious in style, the plays—both of which have stood the test of production—are brightly written, and could be represented either in the open or on an ordinary stage. The price of the book is one shilling.

Celebrities as Play Heroes.

Celebrities seem to be much in demand for dramatisation purposes just now. George Sand and her numerous "lovers" are now on view at the Duke of York's; Molière is again about to be seized upon as a play hero; and several Bonaparte plays are threatened; and now we are bidden to expect a drama written around the Great Whistler.

FIRST NIGHTS OF THE WEEK.

A North Country Play of Sentiment—Anti-Prohibition Comedy—London Hippodrome's Newest Spectacle.

"DADDALUMS."

Play, in Three Acts, by Louis Anspacher, Produced at Wyndham's Theatre on Tuesday, June 15.

Wallace Craigie .....Louis Calvert
Thomas .....Francis Lister
Jeannie .....Edyth Olive
Ellen .....Agnes Thomas
Fergus McLarnie .....Ernest Hendrie
Rose McLarnie .....Marion Bentham
Spencer Hutton .....Edward Bonfield
Herriett .....Margaret Vaughan
Vaughan Leland .....C. Jervis Walter
Donald Graham ..W. Edward Stirling
Carter .....W. Baltimore

As you will probably have guessed "Daddalums" is a pet name. It was given by Thomas Craigie (known as "Tammas" in his infancy) to his delightful old father, a Northampton shoe manufacturer, and a curiously attractive blend of shrewd commonsense, sentimentality, and obtuseness. Old Wallace Craigie had two children, and the other was quiet, strong Jeannie, whose daily sacrifice of her life was taken for granted, and never valued by her father and brother until love called her to fulfil herself, and duty had to give way. For old "Wally" his son was his world. To make "Tammas" a gentleman he had lavished on him everything that money could buy (manufacturing shoes had made him a rich man), including a college education, a Panhard car, and a partnership in a firm of stockbrokers. "Tammas" might have continued to be a gentleman and chuck money about, and might even have gratified his father's social ambition by marrying the rich banker's daughter, whom he did not love, if Jeannie's self-obliteration had not come to an abrupt end. Donald Craigie, the foreman in the Craigie factory, loved Jeannie, and told her so in a charmingly written little scene. The girl found the courage to defy her father and "Tammas," both furious at the thought of the social descent such a marriage would bring the family, and left them to look after themselves. Now, Donald was an inventor. Many of his inventions, financed by old Craigie, had turned out to be duds. The last one, offered to a competitor after the rupture with Wally, brought wealth to the Grahams, and smashed Craigie. Two years after Jeannie's departure we find the old man, struggling bravely to pay Tammas's debts, his faith in his son undimmed. The fight is against overwhelming odds, for Tammas's partner was a scamp, and after feathering his own nest, decamped with the spoils, leaving young Craigie to face the music. With £200 given him by the banker's daughter to invest Tammas made tracks for America. Sturdily the old man upheld the reputation of his beloved son, and his faith was rewarded. With his troubles heavy upon him, old Wally found a note from Tammas containing a frank avowal and a promise of amendment. With a light heart the dear old man set to work to mend the family fortunes, and in another two years we see him paying 20s. in the £, helped by a weekly remittance from Tammas. The ending is a happy one. Tammas returns, his reputation cleared, and the old man discovers that his son owes his success largely to the help given him by the detested Donald. With fine humility, the old man owns himself in the wrong, and the play concludes on a complete reconciliation.

Although by no stretch of the imagination can "Daddalums" be called a great play, yet it tells an attractive story of love that withstood calumny and faith that moved mountains, in a simple and pleasing manner that should delight the majority.

That admirable actor, Mr. Louis Calvert, who makes a welcome return to the London stage, after an absence of five years, gave a wonderfully complete impersonation of the simple-minded, shrewd old Wally, with his vein of rich humour and his strong streak of sentiment. It is a part that could very easily be overplayed, and consequently marred, but Mr. Calvert's rendering was masterly, every touch exactly right. Miss Edyth Olive was more than good as Jeannie. The part does not afford great opportunities, but Miss Olive put into it a reserved force and womanliness that made it conspicuous. Excellent, too, was the old Scotch servant of Miss Agnes Thomas, and the faithful crony of Mr. Ernest Hendrie; while Mr. Francis Lister as Tammas accomplished a difficult task with much credit.

"SUCH A NICE YOUNG MAN."

Comedy in Three Acts, by H. F. Maltby, Produced at the Apollo Theatre, Thursday, June 17.

Mrs. Roberts .....Elisabeth Drury
Captain Perkins .....Sam Livesey
Mrs. Macfarlane .....Dorothy Hall
Mr. Roberts .....William Pringle
Mr. Timothy Roberts ..Edward B. Silk
Mr. Seymour .....Russell Sedgwick
Miss Roberts .....Joan Maclean
Mr. Cook .....Henry C. Hewitt
Miss Bigwood .....Cassie King

Mr. Maltby is evidently a firm believer in the virtues of alcohol. In his latest comedy, which might with equal appropriateness have been called the first half of the refrain of the old—no, the middle-aged—comic song, he proves to his and to a good many other people's satisfaction that "wine . . . maketh glad the heart of man," not to mention beer and spirits. He proves it in a play full of biting humour and clever characterisation, obviously the result of keen observation, a play in which the improbabilities are deftly slurred over and the exaggerations neatly trimmed, so that they stand the valuation of any but the trained eye. Moreover, it is particularly well acted by a skilful band of players, whose names, with one exception, are practically unknown to the average London playgoer.

As usual, Mr. Maltby has chosen a typical suburban milieu. By the end of the evening we felt that we could safely reside at Honor Oak Park, London, S.E. 23 without offending against the unwritten law that window-blinds must remain drawn down one-third of the way; no public-house in the immediate neighbourhood must be visited, however great your thirst, and lodgers must be camouflaged as "paying guests." Mr. and Mrs. Roberts were very strict in their observance of these nice points of etiquette, but they were a cheerful, affectionate pair, and found much solace in occasional "nips" of whisky, gin, beer, &c., in their own home and in the friendly saloon bar of New Cross Gate. Neither were their children, pretty little Grace and her brother Timothy, averse to a glass of port or beer, and Captain Perkins, a jolly old sailor, and Mrs. Roberts' father, openly boasted that he had drunk a bottle of whisky a day for fifty years. When Alfred Cook was added to the household as a paying guest, he preached the benefits of teetotalism, showed Mrs. Roberts that she could keep a maid for the bottle of gin she consumed every week, Tim that he would have the money for a motor bicycle, and Grace a new evening dress if they became water drinkers. Alfred Cook was "such a nice young man" that he converted everybody excepting the hardened old salt. Mrs. Roberts got her maid and various other luxuries, Tim his motor bicycle, and Grace her pretty frock; but with total abstinence came depression and snappiness and indigestion. Alfred, the cause of all the trouble, turned out to be a plausible humbug, and would have ruined foolish little Grace if her grandfather had not intervened. There is an exciting scene when the lodger, with a very bad black eye, given him by the captain, is collared as he is trying to make off with £10 stolen from Mr. Roberts, Tim's bag, and the maid's silk pyjamas, and he is kicked (and very well kicked) from the house. The family is left, happy once more, each one drinking in his favourite beverage to "Temperance."

Mr. Sam Livesay's sea captain is a fine performance. It is a part that differs entirely from any in which we have seen this actor before, and proves remarkable versatility. He plays the "rough diamond" admirably, and the few touches of sentiment are excellently done. Miss Elizabeth Drury plays Mrs. Roberts with a quiet humour that is worthy of high praise. Mr. William Pringle gets exactly the right effect as Mr. Roberts convivial and Mr. Roberts oppressed by total abstinence. Mr. Henry C. Hewitt gives a neat study of the hypocritical Cook, and Miss Joan Maclean and Miss Cassie King both play with conspicuous ability.

This is a play to be seen by all who enjoy good acting and real humour. Even if you are not in favour of so much malt, you are bound to appreciate Maltby.

Mr. H. F. Maltby was determined to get the correct local colour in writing "Such a Nice Young Man," and decided upon Honor Oak Park. Some twenty years ago he resided there, and the memory of its unusual respectability never left him. So to Honor Oak Park he returned to find it exactly the same as when he left.

"JIG-SAW!"

A Revue, by Albert de Courville, Wal Pink, and Edgar Wallace, with Music by Frederick Chappelle and Edward A. Horan, Produced at the London Hippodrome on Wednesday, June 16.

If you like your revue in doses, strong and often, of sheer spectacle, "Jig-Saw!" will please you mightily. If you like in your revue an ingredient or two that the label on the bottle describes as subtle humour, you may very well be disappointed; but no matter on that score, for your disappointment will be forgotten twenty times over in the absolute joy of the spectacle.

"Trimming a Hat" (a tremendous tribute to the producer's ingenuity, and an especial joy to the women folk, as can well be understood), "Sunshine and Kisses," "Swanee," "Sporis," and "Limehouse Nights"—these are just a handful of the spectacles, and it is quite certain that no one can expect the writer, but a very ordinary mortal, to attempt to describe them here. It is a thoroughly well-abused method of escape on the part of critics and others merely to advise "go see," but in this case we have no alternative. The "Jig-Saw!" spectacles, with their riotings of lights, colours, and all the other effects—one thousand and one—that go to make all and sundry the Hippodrome revues what they mainly are to us, are not to be written about as if they were mere—and that brings us to the "dramatic" side, which, it will have been gathered, has been very nearly forgotten. There are a few sketchlets—"Shake Hands With the Prisoner," "While the Show's On," and "Three Chances," "For a Rest," and there are other interludes that suggest a return of the knock-about.

A great feature of the show is the appearance of the Dolly Sisters, those two very clever and charming American "million-dollar" twins. They had a rapturous reception for their brilliant singing and dancing, and well they deserve it. Second to them comes, in the writer's opinion, that beautiful Nancy Gibbs, who sings a host of numbers ("What Do I Care?" and "Poppyland" are prominent among them) and sings magnificently in every instance; and there is, probably sharing the honours with her, the ever-popular Daphne Pollard, full of drollery and "go." Her best "hit" is "I'm One of the Also-Rans." Laddie Cliff, in addition to having the best number of "Jig-Saw!"—"Swanee"—finds full scope for his famous footwork; Fred Allandale is there, though not yet so full of occasion as he might be; Winnie Melville scores with a couple of fine affairs on the "plank," "The Perfume Girl" and "Candy Kisses"; while the best of the poor chances for comedy go to Stanley Lupino, whose arrival at the Hippodrome is a happy event indeed. He is ably supported by first-class comedians like Phil Lester, Ben Welch, and Rupert Hazell. The Dooley Brothers provide their best knockabout business.

The chorus is one of the handsomest and best-drilled that could possibly be wished for. The music is quite pleasant, and more than one melody will outlive the "Jig-Saw!" run.

REPERTORY SEASON AT NORWICH.

Mr. G. Carlton Wallace chose "The Manxman" with which to open his third annual repertory season at Norwich Theatre Royal, and the choice proved a popular one, as was foreshadowed by the advance booking. There have been changes in the company since its last visit, but to the joy of the Norwich public, with whom she is wonderfully popular, Miss Evelyn Carleton is still playing principal lead. Norwich audiences had not forgotten that when the company was last in the capital of East Anglia an interesting ceremony took place at a city church, and it has given them a personal interest in the company.

Always thorough in his presentations and earnest in his acting, Mr. Wallace made a big success of Pete, and nothing could have been better than Miss Carleton's Kate Cregeen. It is quite one of her best character parts. Mr. Stanley Heasley was never anything but excellent as Philip Christia and Mr. Harvey White was quite good as Caesar Cregeen. Very creditable work was done by Miss Dorothy Hilderbrande as Nancy Joe, and the other parts were suitably filled.

"The Manxman" is to be followed by "A King's Romance" and other plays. The period of the company's visit is likely to extend over several weeks.

SHAKESPEARE IN BRISTOL.

THE BENSON TRADITION.

It has been a memorable week at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, for we have had a week of Shakespearean plays, given to crowded houses, which must have given great encouragement to Mr. Henry Baynton, the brilliant young graduate of the Benson school. The enthusiasm with which the performances were received was very gratifying and most encouraging to Mr. Baynton. Answering the persistent calls of the audience after the performance of "Hamlet," Mr. Baynton said: "I assure you that when the curtain arose to-night there was no more nervous man in Bristol than myself. I am absolutely overwhelmed by this glorious reception. It is one of the most wonderful things I have ever experienced in my life, this expression of sympathy towards an actor who is trying hard to keep Shakespearean plays to the fore. At the start I was terrified (laughter)—nothing more nor less. I have just emerged from the most terrible cold of my life, and to find this theatre full, and Englishmen and Englishwomen ready to receive Shakespeare in this way, has exceeded all my dreams. We want so much to keep the Benson School alive, and to see to it that the Benson tradition is not obliterated." With a very obvious tone of sincerity Mr. Baynton also expressed warm appreciation of the "glorious pat on the back" they had reiceived in Bristol. They none of them expected it, and it was a great encouragement to them. He expressed the hope that in future, prior to his visits, he would get letters telling him the plays that would be liked, so that they could work in conjuction with each other.

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THE ERA
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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 1920.

THE DRAMA IN THE SCHOOL.

NO surer method of creating an audience for the theatre can be conceived than that of teaching the drama in the school. If in the process of education the youthful mind can imbibe an appreciation of the delights of the acted drama, there is little likelihood that in later years it will be attracted by anything short of what it has learnt to enjoy. We are not a nation of playgoers any more than we are a musical nation. Puritanism in former days effectually crippled the tendency towards the theatre, and in modern times, when the public mind has broadened, the moving picture steps in to capture the million who have not had time to be trained to the beauties of the spoken word. It is to the schools that we must look to furnish the remedy. The London Shakespeare League were pioneers in the work, and some time ago achieved the hitherto unattainable task of getting a grant for Shakespearean performances, attendance at which constitutes an attendance at school. That, however, is merely the thin end of the wedge, and there is hope that, before long, the grant will be increased and added facilities given for the education of school-children in dramatic literature by means of the acted play.

Creating New Playgoers.

The grant given to the London Shakespeare League applies, of course, only to the metropolis. Now, however, an effort is being made to extend the privilege to Brighton. Prominent among the proposals in the circular just issued of the Brighton Repertory Theatre, which is being inaugurated next Monday, are weekly matinées, to the number of at least three, specially designed for children and students from the local colleges and schools. The Brighton Education Committee has already shown its appreciation of the educational importance of the drama by organising a special Shakespearean performance for children, and it is hoped that it will co-operate in the same manner as that adopted by the Education Committee of the London County Council. Brighton will thus be second to the metropolis in its endeavours to popularise the theatre.

It is the only way, we fear, by which the leakage can be stayed. It is very easy to attribute the losses of theatre lovers to indifferent plays and to the superior attractions of the picture theatre. It is argued that the cinema offers luxurious seats and lower prices than the theatre. But your true worshipper at the shrine of THESPIS disdains discomforts in the way of seating, and, provided he could see and hear, his interest in the play would rise superior to wooden benches. The present prices of theatres, moreover, cannot be regarded as in any way excessive. What is wanted is that the children should grow up with the love of the play implanted in their minds so that nothing could weaken their allegiance to the theatre. An endeavour on the part of theatres to keep pace with other places of amusement is, of course, necessary, but the means upon which most reliance is to be placed is that of training the children in the schools to the appreciation of the drama and at the same time destroy the prejudice against the theatre, which still exists in many quarters. Brighton is seconding London in its efforts to obtain real State recognition of the theatre; it should be the ideal of other cities to follow so commendable an example.

Leakage from the Theatre.

HUMOURS OF ARMY LIFE.

WHAT THE SERGEANT-MAJOR SAID.

By ROBERT HALE.

I joined the Army as a private first in the infantry. Later I became attached to the horse transport at Aldershot, and eventually got a commission.

When I joined up in the infantry I did so under my own name—Hale Monro. I—I should say we—got up at five o'clock in the morning, and had to shave under a hedge, and were forced to "carry on" until about five o'clock in the evening. I had no time to be funny.

Entertaining Under Orders.

One day an officer galloped up to me—I had seen a better horseman in my time—and he said to me: "Is not your name Robert Hale?" "No," I said, "it is Hale Monro." The officer rode off. Later I was advertised to take part at a concert, and I might have been a criminal judging by the way I was treated eventually, I was brought before the adjutant and asked if I would write down on a piece of paper what I was going to do at the concert. "The Colonel must know beforehand," I was told. I refused to write it down, and asked if the Colonel had a sense of humour. "How dare you

MR. ROBERT HALE.

ask such a question," came the reply, whereupon I said, "If he hasn't, he will not appreciate what I am going to do." The adjutant did not know exactly what steps to take, and, in the end, I was "released" and told to report myself at the concert.

I straightway decided to represent a drill sergeant at the concert, and, unfortunately, I made up as an exact likeness of our regimental sergeant-major. The men shrieked when I came on the platform, and, naturally, they appreciated my efforts. So did the sergeant-major—for a time. But at length he looked "daggers" at me. Next morning I was paraded, and told that what I had done was bad for the discipline of the troops. And I nearly got "C.B." for what I had done!

Reinforcing the Rations.

On another occasion I had a real fight with a man for a portion of margarine as big as my thumb-nail. When we had finished the magarine had disappeared. The sergeant eventually told me to parade before the Captain in the orderly room. "What is the matter with your chin strap?" I was asked. I took off my hat and the Captain remarked: "Good heavens, man, you have got a lump of butter on your head"—lo and behold, I had! Nay, it wasn't butter, but the margarine for which I had fought.

One day some 1,500 of us sat down to dine. There were two vacant places at my table, one on either side of me, and I asked: "Are these fellows coming in?" The waiter-soldier replied: "No, they are on guard." So I ate both their dinners. Just as I was going out of the mess-room—or, rather, mess-shed—I met these two fellows, and they made me feel as if I had committed a murder. You should have heard their language! It is unprintable!

While I was in the Army the Income Tax people wrote me three times asking me to state my full income. And I replied: "10s. 6d. a week, less 1s. 3d. per month for washing." Naturally I was exempt from payment of Income Tax during my stay in the Army!

The Value of Experience.

As a Cadet I returned a "very good" examination paper on the subject of the King's Regulations. The Adjutant afterwards called me on one side and asked: "How is it you have done such a good paper? You seem to know a great deal about the King's Regulations." Like a fool, I said: "Because, Sir, I have been under arrest myself." This statement did not enhance my chance of promotion. But anyhow, I got a commission eventually.

I was always given a very wicked horse to ride at Aldershot. If ever an animal ran away or did some fancy trick I always got it. One day we were engaging in jumping exercises. One of the men with me had done a great deal of steeplechasing, and he got over the fence beautifully—so I thought. But the sergeant-major thought otherwise. "That is not the right way to jump over the fence," he said. The man had held the animal well, but the sergeant-major was not satisfied. "You must lean forward when you jump the fence, not backward," he said to me. And when it came to my turn to jump I leaned forward and nearly broke my nose on the top of the fence. "That's the way to ride," exclaimed the sergeant-major. "Touch your nose on the fence!"

THE PLAY IN PARIS.

"Anthony and Cleopatra" Musicalised—Revue Writer as Actor—"Nono" Back in Paris—A Sentimental Farce.

(FROM "THE ERA" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Sunday. — Ida Rubinstein has tried an experiment as an ephemeral directress of the Opera, by mounting at her own expense, for five performances, the new version by André Gide of Shakespeare's "Anthony and Cleopatra." There is accompanying music by Florent Schmitt, but it is not an opera. The production was remarkable for its cast, popular players holding secondary rôles. M. de Max, the Roumanian actor, of the Comedie Francaise, was seen as Anthony, Ida Rubinstein naturally holding the part of Cleopatra, Albert Brasseur (Mardian), Max Daerly (Diomede), Armond Baur (Lepide), Yannel (Octave), Gretillat (Encharabus), Mme. Berandt (Charmien), Mlle. Devilers (Iras), with a number of other well-known people, including the pantomimist Wague, Vierge and Harry Pilcer, who had arranged the dances, figured in the company. M. Chevillard conducted. The production was much praised for the elaborate style in which it was mounted, but the book and interpretation, in spite of the big cast, was less laudably received. In any event, it was slow, and at the premiere did not finish until long after midnight.

"Kitty."

P. L. Flers, the revue writer, has taken over the little Potiniere for the summer, and has presented a French version of "Anthony in Wonderland," which he has himself prepared. Likewise he appears in the leading part of Anthony, with Mme. Mare Marville as Sybil, Mlle. Goury as Kitty, and Julien as Mortimer. The reception by the local press was lukewarm. Flers recently mounted a show at the Palace Theatre, London.

"Nono."

Sacha Guitry, for the first time, is acting in his own little Theatre des Mathurins, and presented on Friday night his own successful comedy, "Nono," exactly in the same form as seen recently in London, with Yvonne Printemps in the title-rôle. This will prove, probably, the most successful effort of this new house, inaugurated at the commencement of the past season.

"Arsene Lupin."

This detective piece of Maurice Leblanc and Francis de Croisset was revived by Leon Volterra at the Theatre de Paris last night to replace Bataille's "Enfant de l'Amour." Inspired by "Raffles" and "Sherlock Holmes," the four acts hold public attention to the end.

"La Moisson."

The above piece, in three acts, by Paul Janot, was presented on Wednesday at the Theatre Grevin, which forms part of the wax-works museum by that name. It is the first effort of the author, and he attemps to preach the doctrine that art is an organ of propaganda for moral regeneration. When a strong play portrays human passion it should be suppressed as being harmful to humanity. But M. Janot only half convinced his audience. His plot is simple: Jacques has written a play, which he anticipates will continue his brilliant career. But his most intimate friend, a missionary, prevails on him to renounce the production, and he presents works of a religious order. But they fail to fill the larder, though the author receives many letters of compliment, and the playwright's wife protests, threatening even to elope. Virtue has its recompense; the wife remains in her humble home until recognition and glory crown the persisting author, the Academy admitting him to membership—on the day of his death!

"Cosi Fan Tutte."

A performance for the benefit of the staff of the Opéra-Comique is to be given shortly, on which occasion this work of Mozart (known, I believe, as the "School of Lovers") will be presented for the first time entirely in French. The music of "Cosi Fan Tutte" has already been heard here in part as an opera by J. Barbier and Michel Carré, on their libretto of Shakespeare's "Love's Labour's Lost." The promised version for Mozart's score is by Jean Chantavoine.

"Le Cri du Cœur."

For the summer season there was produced by M. Audier at the Ambigu Comique on Friday a sentimental farce by P. Veber and Henri de Gorsse, which seems to please. Regine de Roquefeuille is a frolicsome young lady, devoted to philanthropic works, visiting hospitals, placing foundlings, and trying to relieve suffering. She is accompanied by her aristocratic cousin in her charitable expeditions, and needless to explain, they are in love. Regine even watches over the welfare of her own family, and perceiving Suzanne, her brother's wife, on the verge of an intrigue with Vernon, a celebrated professor of psychology at the Sorbonne, she does not hesitate to visit his bachelor flat in the place of her sister-in-law, to preserve the wife's honour. Thus, when the husband arrives on the scene, he finds his sister there, and for the sake of her reputation, compels the middle-aged Vernon to promise to marry the girl. But the sweetheart of the Sorbonne professor declines to be ousted, so all ends for the best, and Regine will be able to marry her devoted cousin, who suspects the truth of the adventure. The three acts constitute a nice little comedy, albeit there is nothing particularly new in the situations.

The paying public was admitted to the "repétition-Général," and the Assistance Publique administration is now claiming the poor rate of 10 per cent. on all the receipts, which were intended, it is alleged, for a charitable institution.

SHOULD DRAMA BE SUBSIDISED?

MISS LENA ASHWELL'S SUGGESTIONS.

Municipal authorities are "nibbling" at the interesting question of subsidised drama, and where labour rules there is a definite agitation for civic aid for the stage. At the Lyceum Club dinner to the members of the Drama League, recently reported in "The Era," the suggestion was made that as public washhouses were a charge on the rates, there was no objection to levying a halfpenny rate for the drama.

The fact that at the moment local authorities are not ripe for rating the ratepayers in order to subsidise the drama is suggested by the organ of local government, the "Municipal Journal," which stated:—

In a Utopian community perhaps the local theatres, music halls, and cinemas will all be under municipal management, but meanwhile we really do not think the world is ripe for subsidising theatre-owners, managers, and actors. There is something too suggestive of camouflaged poor-law relief about these subsidies, and if the drama cannot get on without rate aid, it had better get out. In these days the people have surplus cash for amusements, and it is hardly playing the game to look to the municipality to provide them with cheap amusement, even though such amusement may be classed as educational. Drama for school children is, perhaps, legitimate, and is already subsidised by the London County Council, but grown-ups may very well be left to find and pay for their own entertainment. We question whether there is really a genuine demand on the part of the public to give rate aid to the stage, but it is certain that local authorities at the moment have plenty of useful work to do without embarking upon enterprises which are already being usually well carried out by private enterprise.

Since then the "Municipal Journal" has received the subjoined interesting communication on the subject from Miss Lena Ashwell:—

The writer of the article on "Subsidising the Stage" in "The Municipal Journal" does not appear to have considered very deeply the subject upon which he is writing. The Labour Mayors are not out to subsidise actors any more than previous mayors, when starting the public baths—which are a part of the work of so many municipalities in different London areas—were out to subsidise the bath attendants. Previous mayors believed that baths were a necessary part of the healthy life of the community, and therefore spent some time and energy in order to procure for every individual this very necessary adjunct to physical development and comfort.

The Labour Mayors believe that a little healthy bathing in the fine atmosphere of good dramatic literature, which is the inheritance of our race, may be for the good of the mentality of the race, and may also, perhaps, influence their physical life.

Anyone really interested in the life of this great City of London, knowing the terrible lack of healthy recreation in many of the large areas, would feel how right are the Labour Mayors in trying to attend to the mental needs of their fellow citizens.

The municipal finances are well protected, and it is unlikely that a subsidy for such entertainment can be procured, but would not a halfpenny or a penny on the rates for this purpose be better spent than in the cause of maintaining prisons, hospitals, workhouses?

L.C.C. SCHOLARS AND SHAKESPEARE.

A performance that created considerable interest was given at the Old Vic. on Saturday evening, when the students of the L.C.C. Evening Institute Dramatic Literature Classes gave performances of extracts from Shakespeare. Miss Alice D'Egville, who was responsible for its organisation, had arranged a programme of a dozen scenes, each one being given by the students of one of the different London centres. A spirit of healthy competition was therefore infused into the performers, who collectively showed considerable promise, and gave evidence of the excellent training they had received.

The New Park-road Women's Institute, of Brixton Hill, contributed an extract from "A Winter's Tale," introducing some well-arranged pastoral music and dancing with admirable effect. Another scene from the same play was done by the Northwold-road Commercial Evening Institute, of Upper Clapton-road, in which Miss Bertha Gross, a young lady of undeniable histrionic talent, made a great hit as King Polixenes. The outstanding feature of the Marylebone Literary Institute extract from "The Taming of the Shrew," was the splendid portrayal of Katherine on the part of Miss Gladys Haynes, whilst Mr. Harold Sealey's Petruchio was an intelligent and finished piece of work. The scene from "As You Like It" (Morley College), in which the Misses Dimond, Lang, and Cowham appeared, was particularly well done. Lack of space prevents mention in detail of the whole of the performance, which reflects great credit upon the students, their instructors, and Miss Agnes D'Egville.

AS YOU LIKE IT.

Summer barometers: "The Little Whopper."

* * *

A critic complained last week that women playing Hamlet were not the real thing. Sort of Shamlet, eh?

* * *

But, after all, why should not women take men's part? All gallant men take women's parts.

* * *

I am glad to read that Douglas Fairbanks has just released "The Mollycoddles." Whatever our personal views may be, mollycoddling isn't a punishable offence.

* * *

And, be it mentioned, a report says that Douglas and Mary have just embarked for Lapland.

* * *

Cinema restaurants are in the offing. Well, some of our restaurants want to get a move on!

* * *

Incidentally, I hope that diners with bad manners will be screened.

* * *

Covent Garden is packed. The reason there's a rush on is the crush on the Russians.

* * *

Meanwhile, some of our provincial theatres are doing very poorly. The managers have "got the slumps."

* * *

Did you notice that the new anti-prohibition play is by Mr. "Malt" by? It ought to beer success.

* * *

Another auspicious indication is the announcement that Messrs. Grossmith and Laurillard's programme includes "Mie-Mie," Moscovitch, and Maeterlinck. Isn't it M-mence?

* * *

I entirely disagree with the critic who complains that we have no all-round comedians. Clearly, he's never seen Ernie Mayne.

TOUCHSTONE.

WHAT'S ON IN TOWN.

ADELPHI (Strand, W.C.). — "Who's Hooper?" 8.15. Wed., Sat., at 2.15. Gerr. 2645.

ALHAMBRA (Leicester - square). — "Johnny Jones," 8. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 5064-5. Reg. 2522.

AMBASSADORS (Cambridge Circus, W.C.).—"The Grain of Mustard Seed," 8.45. Tues., Sat., 2.45. Gerr. 4460.

APOLLO (Shaftesbury-av.).—"Such a Nice Young Man," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3243.

COURT (Sloane-sq., S.W.).—"The Old House," 8.30. Sat. 2.30. Gerr. 848.

COVENT GARDEN (Bow-street, W.C.).—Wed., Russian Ballet, 8.30. Thurs., "Il Tabarro," 8.30. Gerr. 640, 641.

CRITERION (Coventry-st.). — "Lord Richard in the Pantry," 8.30. Tues., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3844.

DALY'S (Cranbourn-street, W.C.).—"A Southern Maid," 8. Tues., Sat., 2. Gerr. 202.

DUKE OF YORK'S (St. Martin's-lane, W.C.).—"Madame Sand," 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 314.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square). — "Irene," 8.15. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3527.

GAIETY (Strand, W.C.).—"The Shop Girl," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 2780.

GARRICK (Charing Cross-rd.).—"One Night in Rome," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30.

GLOBE (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"A Marriage of Convenience," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 8722.

HAYMARKET (Haymarket, S.W.).—"Mary Rose," 8.30. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Reg. 6030.

HIS MAJESTY'S (Haymarket, S.W. 1).—"Chu Chin Chow," 8. Wed., Sat., 2,15. Gerr. 1777.

LYCEUM (Wellington-street, Strand).—Carl Rosa Opera Co., 7.45. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 7617.

LYRIC (Shaftesbury-avenue, W.).—"Bast is West," 8.30. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3687.

NEW (St. Martin's-lane). — "Carnival," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Reg. 4464.

OXFORD (Oxford-st., W.).—"The Man Who Came Back," 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Museum 1760.

PALACE (Shaftesbury-avenue). — "The Whirligig," 8.15. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 6834

PLAYHOUSE (Charing Cross-rd., W.C.). —"Mr. Pim Passes By," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3970.

PRINCE OF WALES (Coventry-st., W.). —"Bran Pie," 8. Wed., Fri., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 7482.

PRINCE'S (Shaftesbury - avenue). — Anna Pavlova, 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr., 3400-1.

QUEEN'S (Shaftesbury - avenue). — "Young Person in Pink," 8.30. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 9437.

ROYALTY (Dean-st., W.C.). — "My Lady's Dress," 8.15. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3855.

SAVOY (Strand, W.C.).—"Paddy the Next Best Thing," 8. Mon., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 3366-7.

SHAFTESBURY (Shaftesbury-av.). — "Oh! Julia," 8. Thurs., 2.30. Gerr. 6666.

ST. JAMES (King-st., S.W.).—"Mystery of the Yellow Room," 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30.

ST MARTIN'S (West-street, W.C. 2).—"The Skin Game," 8.30. Tues., Fri., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 1243.

STRAND (Strand, W.C.). — "Tiger Tiger," 8.30. Wed., Thurs., 2.30. Gerr. 3453-3.

VAUDEVILLE (Strand, W.C.). — "Just Fancy," 8.30. Tues., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3815.

WINTER GARDEN THEATRE (Drury-lane, W.C.).—"Kissing Time," 8. Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 416.

WYNDHAM'S (Charing Cross-road, W.C.).—"Daddalums," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Reg. 3023.

VARIETY THEATRES.

COLISEUM (Charing Cross). — Nellie and Sara Koura, Clarice Mayne, Grock, Syncopated Orchestra, Gresham Singers, 2.30 and 7.35. Gerr. 7541.

HIPPODROME (Cranbourn - street). — "Jig-Saw," 8.30. Gerr. 660.

THEY SAY——

That Iris Hoey does not believe in getting a reputation for one kind of part.

* * *

That Oscar Asche is fond of horses, and is a good judge of them.

* * *

That most of the old green rooms are now in the hands of stage carpenters and property masters.

* * *

That, according to Ben Greet, no moralist in the world has ever equalled Shakespeare.

* * *

That Arthur Collins is an enthusiast on Algerian sunshine.

* * *

That theatrical audiences are growing less and less punctual.

* * *

That French actors and actresses rarely talk shop.

* * *

That the cinema magnates have some big surprises to spring upon London before long.

* * *

That, despite this, George Robey is vastly optimistic regarding the future of the stage.

* * *

That, since Vesta Tilley's retirement, everybody has started imitating her, including gramophones.

* * *

That "The Grain of Mustard Seed" has been seen by nearly all the members of the Cabinet.

* * *

That Marie Doro believes physical courage is one of the most important qualifications of a cinema actress.

THE VARIETY WORLD.

Adeler and Sutton Reunion—Variety and Housing Bonds Campaign—War Seal Foundation Concert—V.A.F. Meeting at Newcastle.

Adeler and Sutton Re-Union.

There were sounds of revelry by night in Gerrard-street, Soho, last Sunday, when many some-time pierrots gathered together and bid "bon voyage" to Edwin Adeler, who is making his second trip to South Africa to-morrow. The chairman, Mr. George Reynolds, in handing the honoured guest a substantial cheque, was pleasantly reminiscent about old times, when he was a fellow-senior with the firm. Mr. Tom Edwards (vice-chairman), who, with his charming wife, had broken his journey between Birmingham and Manchester to attend the function, proposed the health of "Billy" Sutton, who is now the manager of the Crystal Palace, Christchurch (N.Z.).

Mr. Joe McConnell (hon. sec.), read letters and telegrams and some appropriate verse by Tubby Edlin, and other speeches were made by Tom Stuart, Stanley Kirkby, Eric Lane, Alf. Leonard, Josey Leyton (Mrs. Leonard), Clifford Morgan, Pip Powell and Clifford Grey—the latter getting roars of laughter for some spontaneous gags that he might easily work later on into one of his lyrics. Altogether the evening was most enjoyable, and was an eloquent testimony to Mr. Adeler's popularity. Mr. Pip Powell proposed, amidst cheers, that the function should be mane an annual event.

The Three-quarter Concession.

Mr. Harry Marlow, the chairman of the Executive Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, has returned to town, and he and Mr. C. Douglas Stuart, the secretary, have been devoting all their energy on behalf of the retention of the three-quarter fare concession. Although unable at the moment to give a definite statement, they are very satisfied with the result of their efforts, and are hopeful that the 25 per cent. reduction will be retained. Immediately anything official comes to hand all the provincial agents will be notified, and members should apply for information to them early next week.

The V.A.F. Co.

The Variety Artists' Transport Company, though only recently started, is giving every promise of becoming an established success; the patronage of the profession is each week increasing, and the number of orders is becoming larger and larger. At an extraordinary meeting of the shareholders, held last week, Mr. Bruce Green (director) in the chair, it was decided to increase the capital of the company from £1,500 to £3,000, and to add to the number of the directors. Mr. Geo. McCarthy has been appointed as general manager of the company.

Moss' Empires and Housing Bonds.

Mr. R. H. Gillespie, the managing director of Moss' Empires, Ltd., has arranged for the entire proceeds of all the performances on Saturday, June 26, in the London Music Halls under the control of the Moss' Empires, to be invested in London Housing Bonds. Other managements are favourably considering this useful method of supporting the Housing Bonds campaign.

In Aid of War Seal Foundation.

With a choir of 400 and an orchestra of 60, the Langham Choral-Orchestral Society (London Telephone Service) will give parts 1 and 2 of "Hiawatha," and a miscellaneous programme at the Alhambra next Sunday, in aid of the War Seal Foundation, which provides flats and medical treatment for disabled soldiers and their families. The concert is under the patronage of an influential committee, including Earl Haig, the Lord Mayor, and Sir Oswald Stoll.

Carmo and Newcastle's Tag Day.

Carmo, the well-known illusionist, added considerably to the interest and success of "Tag Day," in aid of the Poor Children's Holiday Association in Newcastle recently. Attired in Oriental garb he arrived at the Barras Bridge War Memorial astride the huge camel which is seen in his act, and, accompanying him, seated on "Mary," the pet elephant, was Miss Doris Bebby, daughter of Mr. W. H. Bebby (manager of the Hippodrome), who originated the movement seven years ago, and is an indefatigable worker in the cause of charity. Later, the elephant handed to the Lord Mayor a sum of £24, which had been collected at the Hippodrome.

Lady de Frece to Present Prizes.

Lady de Frece, accompanied by Sir Walter de Frece, M.P., will present the prizes at the Southern Counties Cycling Union "Mystery" meeting at Herne Hill track on Saturday, July 3. There will be a grand parade of competitors at 2.45 for the S.C.C.U. "Madison" Great 100 Kilometres International Team Race à la Americaine, and twenty selected teams of crack riders will compete for £100 in prizes. After the race the winning team will be presented with special sashes d'honneur by Lady de Frece, and they will then make a circuit of the track, as is the custom on the Continent.

V.A.F. Meeting at Newcastle.

A series of weekly meetings of the Variety Artists' Federation was inaugurated at Newcastle-on-Tyne on Friday, when a large and representative gathering met at the Bridge Hotel, Castle-square. Mr. Max Sterling, a member of the Executive Committee, presiding. Among those present were Tubby Edlin (also a member of the Executive Committee), Jay Whidden, Herbert la Martine, Miss Vera Wooton and Miss Edna Maude. The chairman, after expressing his satisfaction at the number of new members who had joined the Federation during the last week or two, said that similar weekly meetings were already established at Manchester, Glasgow and Liverpool, and he hoped that all the large provincial centres would fall into line. The next large town where meetings were to be formed was Leeds.

The company expressed their support of the action of the chairman of the Federation with regard to ex-enemy aliens on the British variety halls. One ex-enemy act had already been prevented from appearing at one of the outlying halls near London, and the meeting unanimously declared their intention of doing all they could in order to keep the halls clear of these acts, and to prevent agents exploiting German and Austrian acts to the disadvantage of the home article.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Alexander MacBride, the manager of the hotel, was proposed by the chairman, who said the Bridge Hotel was the house in which the V.A.F. meetings were held from the first. It is hoped that all artists visiting Newcastle will make a point of endeavouring to attend these weekly meetings, which will take place at 12.30 every Friday afternoon at the Bridge Hotel.

Bert Levy.

Bert Levy, the artist entertainer, is appearing at the Leeds Empire this week, and on Monday evening met with a very gratifying reception. Mr. Levy is undoubtedly an artist, and his work is original. The sketch is done in a circle about 2½in. dia., and reflected on a screen in an ingenious way, so that every detail is clear; furthermore, this artist has the knack of localising his cartoons. The ease and quickness with which Mr. Levy executes the various cartoons and sketches to a whistling accompaniment adds attractiveness to a most enjoyable turn. Mr. Levy wishes to return his sincere thanks to the many friends who have written and wired him their good wishes.

Duncan and Godfrey.

The popular cockney couple, Duncan and Godfrey, are making their reappearance in town at the Shepherds Bush Empire, where their act, "Tar and Feathers," is going stronger than ever. Owing to the indisposition of Minnie Duncan, who has now happily recovered, they have been obliged to rest for the past four weeks.

Death of Famous Snake Charmer.

News has just come through from the East Indies of the death of Cleopatra, the snake charmer, who passed away suddenly soon after her performance at Fillis's Circus, Leobanjan, Java, on Nov. 20, 1919. Cleopatra, who was very well known in the colonies with her father, Carlos, and

CLEOPATRA.

Little Bonita, her sister, the crack shot, returned to England in 1911 with her sister, to work in the Wild Australia show which came over for the Coronation. She went out to Africa again in 1915 to join her sister with Bostock's Circus, finally joining Fillis's Circus in Calcutta, India, in 1917. Deceased was a great favourite with all who knew her, and the entire staff of Fillis's Circus attended the funeral.

The Search for Talent.

Moss Empires' Search for New Talent scheme has reached London, and at the New Cross Empire this week private auditions are being held. Over 750 acts of all descriptions have been dealt with in Scotland, Wales, the Northern Counties, and the Midlands, and this week 200 artists from the Southern Counties are being seen. The pick of the latter will appear at a special matinée at New Cross Empire on Saturday, while a grand final matinée at Finsbury Park Empire on Thursday, July 8, will present the most successful artists from the various centres where "try-outs" have taken place.

Charles Locke's Farewell Benefit.

A farewell complimentary benefit, by kind permission of the proprietors, Messrs Blake, Bros. (Theatres), Ltd., was given to Mr. Chas. Locke on Friday evening last week, on his relinquishing the post as residential manager of Blake's Theatre, Hitchin. There was a large audience, the programme being contributed to by Tom Williams, Welsh baritone; Miss Isa Wise (chorus comedienne), Mr. Billy Rogers (comedian), the Two Bentons (eccentric acrobats), and Sergeant A. O. Nicholson, Australian Flying Corps, (operatic baritone). The musical directors were Mr. Arthur Godber and Bandmaster Twitchett, R.A.F. Mr. Locke's successor is Mr. Will Rolston, who comes with many years' experience in the theatrical and picture world. Mr. Locke has been engaged as manager for a well-known touring company.

Presentation to Horace Livermore.

Mr. Horace Livermore has just relinquished the proprietorship of Livermore's Palace, Bristol. On Saturday evening Mr. Tom Channing, his manager, told a packed audience that Councillor Horace's employees at the Palace felt they could not allow the occasion to pass without marking their esteem of him, and their regret at his leaving the Palace. Many of the members of the staff had been with Mr. Livermore years, and he, himself, had been with him a period of 40 years. He was one of the kindest and most considerate employers it was possible to have, and he asked Mr. Livermore to accept a handsome case of fish knives and forks as a parting gift from them.

Mr. Hamilton Baines, of the Theatre Royal, then went to the stage and made a second presentation, a solid gold cigar case, to Mr. Livermore. He said that a few of Mr. Livermore's friends in Bristol had desired to mark their profound respect for him. The whole thing had been done spontaneously, and in a couple of days or so.

Mr. Livermore, in reply, said the presentations had come as a complete surprise to him, and he should treasure them as mementoes of the happy years of his association with the Palace. Mr. Channing and all the members of the staff had ever been most loyal to him.

The Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

The committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild wish to thank the following ladies for kindly sending their committee subscription fee of one guinea: Miss Clarice Mayne, Mrs. Nelson Jackson, and Miss Florrie Forde.

The children's fortnight holiday, also the children's day's outing, will be taking place early in July and during August, and the committee would be grateful for any donations.

The Terriers.

At the meeting on Sunday last, Howard Ward officiated as W.T., Walter Norman as V.T., Fred Hughes, W.D.; W. B. Willby, Y.B.; and Arthur Were, secretary.

A hearty welcome was extended to W. B. Willby and Walter Norman upon their re-appearance in the Kennel

Thomas Ford and Miller Sutcliffe have passed the ballot.

The election of officers for July will be held on Sunday.

Lt. Wilson Roberts.

Lt. Wilson Roberts, who was wounded and very badly gassed in 1918, and had to give up his tour and go into hospital for operations and treatment, tells us that he is progressing favourably, and hopes to soon be at work again. He will be pleased to hear from friends. Address: P. Ward, Queen Alexandra's Military Hospital, Millbank, S.W. 1.

Ernie Redfern.

Ernie Redfern, a light comedian with a pleasing style, has been doing excellently around the L.T.V. lately, and at the Bedford last week his two numbers met with much approval. Ernie is appearing at Woolwich this week.

Tom Pacey's Activities.

We hear that Tom Pacey has just booked several good acts on the L.T.V. circut, extending from three to five years. At Hammersmith this week, Crasey, Hicks and Pass are making their first appearance on this circuit. On Monday next the Sadler Rusie quartette of dancers commence a three years' L.T.V. contract. Bond Rowell, who is described as the new Chas. Godfrey, who is appearing this week at Hackney, has been secured for the L.T.V. tour into 1925; and Laddie Cliff—one of Tom's oldest clients—who has made such a decided success at the London Hippodrome, also has a long contract with this circuit.

"My Fay" Waltz.

In a paragraph last week we referred to Mr. Arthur Linton's new waltz, published by Messrs. Becott & Co., as "Mystery." It should have been "My Fay," and is dedicated to Miss Fay Hampton, who is engaged to play one of the principal parts in Mr. J. Fawcett's new musical comedy, "The Moon Maiden," of which Mr. Arthur Linton is writing the score.

"The Jazzland Front."

Whitehill and Richards tell us that after they have produced "The Jazzland Front" they have several episodes by well-known authors for presentation. One of the novelties which they will shortly introduce to London is a fine gypsy Continental band. They have sold the Paris rights for "The Jazzland Front," which will be done in French.

Peggy Deane.

At the Hammersmith Palace on Monday next, Peggy Deane will make her appearance on the halls. This has been arranged by Mr. Barney Jacobs, of Lew Lake's Agency. Miss Deane will feature Lawrence Wright numbers, including a new one entitled "God Sent Those Wonderful Dreams."

Mayne and Sheridan.

That popular couple, Percy Mayne and Jack Sheridan, who are at the Holborn Empire this week, have secured two new numbers for early production, entitled "I'll Lend You My ——" and "Leave it to the Wimmen," both by J. P. Long. In addition to playing the Holborn Percy and Jack were called upon to deputise for Fred Barnes at the Bedford.

Molly Butler.

The clever dialect comedienne, Molly Butler, has just commenced a four months' provincial tour at Bargoed, and after playing two weeks in the Isle of Man, will resume the Controlling tour at the Hippo., Brighton, at the end of next month. When Molly returns to town, to resume the L.T.V. tour, she will present some new character studies, which promise to equal the success of her French number.

Frank Varney's New Act.

At the Holborn Empire next week, Frank Varney will present a new act, in which he will be partnered by that charming artist, Teddie Butt. Many novel ideas will, we hear, be found in the act, which has been specially written by R. P. Weston and Bert Lee.

MY MUSIC HALL TOUR.

HEAT AND HUMOUR—SOME MUSICAL FEATS STILL TO BE ACCOMPLISHED—"THE HEATHEN" AT HAMMERSMITH.

At the Shepherd's Bush Empire.

The hot weather has come—the really hot weather, when audiences sit limply in their seats and comedians perspire under their make-up. You may read these lines huddling before a fire, for the weather changes its mood as quickly as a woman changes her mind, but the evening I write of was sultry in the extreme, and I was not the only one at the Shepherd's Bush Empire who wondered at the energy of the Four Madcaps, dancing and somersaulting as though it were a cold day in January rather than a hot one in June; at the Deguchi Troupe, who looked cooler than we did while they twisted and twirled as only Japs can; and at Austin Rudd, dressed in heavy black, and singing "The Body's Upstairs."

I note that Austin is billing this song now. It is as popular, though I do not think it has yet had as long a life, as "Sailors Don't Care." What a callous lot we are to laugh when we should weep over the demise of people who drink Government beer or play with dynamite. "The Bod-dee's Upstairs," sings Austin, and we chortle joyously. Austin has added another amusing song to his list, "She Was In My Class," which tickled the audience muchly.

Bumped into Will Evans again and his "Lost Umbrella." He was even funnier than when I saw him a week previously at the Coliseum. He was also livelier—another example of heroism in the heat. The first half of this sketch is particularly good, because it is not only funny, but is a legitimate hit at husbands who get up with the sole object in life of quarrelling with their wives. Here are a few more characters whom Will might usefully and entertainingly take off—the "unselfish" man who always contrives to get the best of everything, the confirmed pessimist, who sees the ruination of the world's crops in a summer shower at Sidcup, and the man who is always doing the wrong thing and always finding a perfect excuse for his mistakes.

Edis and Forbes presented another sketch entitled "Fresh Hair," full of amusing odds and ends. Forbes, particularly in the first half, was exceedingly funny. His conversations over the telephone were delightful, the best moment being when he bawled out:—

"Hallo! Hallo! What's the best number to ask for to get Mayfair 2896?"

Good harp playing and good singing were provided respectively by Mario Lorenzi and Elizabeth Hyde. Will Lacey, the American cycling comedian, also introduced music into his turn, playing the violin and the tambourine while balanced on a wheel. Surprise is one of the surest elements of entertainment. No audience can be bored while it is astonished. It might grow drowsy in time merely to watch a man sitting on a wheel, or to listen to a man play the tambourine; but get the two things together, and it is a different story. I have never yet heard a big drum played on the top of a ladder, or a tin whistle tootled by a fellow standing on his head. These are certain winners. And so will be the first man who plays the harp on a tight rope.

At Hammersmith Palace.

The two big things at Hammersmith, whither I next wended my way, were Hilda Glyder and Jay Laurier. While listening to Hilda Glyder I feel conscious that my own experience of life is very shallow. Even in a taxi-cab I do none of the things which Hilda hints at in "You'd Be Surprised." If I were dining with Hilda and she asked me to pass the salt, I feel sure I should grow agitated and wonder what dark significance lay beneath the cellar! Jay Laurier, on the other hand, is charmingly frank and simple. The only person who shows any embarrassment when he is on is himself. Still, I don't expect he really suffers very much.

For observations concerning Garadini, the Miller-Sutcliffe's and Kitty Denton's Eight Little Rays of Sunshine, see recent notices. Two turns which were quite new to me were Mollie Butler and Tom Gott. Tom is a Yorkshire comedian, who appears as a mother and tells you a number of home truths. Love gets it in the neck, as it usually does, and Mother, bless her soul, scores all along the line. If I were to say a word against Mother (and I have no wish to) I should have every music hall audience at my throat. But, dash it all, even Mother was young once, and went to meet Dad in her Sunday best, while her own mother darned the stockings!

Mollie Butler gave us a very varied ten minutes, beginning on a comic note and ending on a tragic one. Her humorous stories raised a deal of laughter, and the pathos of her final recitation came as something of a surprise. She has dramatic talent. Also, a telling personality. Someone ought to write a sketch for her.

She was followed by a sketch which proved to be one of the best I have seen for a long while—"The Heathen," by John G. Brandon. The central figure is a Chinaman named Yen-Ho, admirably played by George Pickett. Yen-Ho is yellow, but proves a whiter man than his rascally English associates in the opium business, and he eventually outwits them, although at the expense of his life. There is a weird atmosphere of villainy, neuroticism, and red lights in the piece, and I think we all echoed the sentiment of Jay Laurier (who was the next turn) when he opened with the remark, "Well, that's cured *me* of opium!" The part of the girl whom Yen-Ho dies to save was well played by Dorothy Wilmer, and both A. Gordon Laws and J. A. Bentham were good in other rôles. Go and see "The Heathen" if you have the chance.

I was sorry that Ethel Leslie gave us only one song—"The Land of Beginning Again." She has a nice voice, and might have obliged with some more. The programme concluded with Joe and Willie, an amusing pair of equilibrists, who have exceptionally strong wrists and quite a pretty sense of humour. I imagine a sense of humour must be necessary when you perform risky balancing tricks. For suppose the tricks do not come off? You must grin and bear it. Probably Joe and Willie's sense of humour is a survival of their practising days, when they grinned and bore a good deal. But they have nothing to bear to-day, beyond each other, in a series of inverted positions.

I wonder how many equilibrists are broken in the making? We only see the successes.

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SONGS AND SINGERS.

B. Feldman & Co.

Calland and Hooper, writing from the Empire, Belfast, on June 16, say:—"We have been retained here another week owing to Feldmanism, and we are doing a complete Feldman programme during the extended period."

Marjorie Fulton, who introduced "My Hawaiian Bluebird" some time ago and made a sensational success of it, is still carrying all before her with the dainty number, which, incidentally, might have been written specially for Miss Fulton, so well does it suit her.

In "Oh, Betsy," "We're All Alive and Well" and "I'm For Ever Blowing Bubbles," says, Mr. Booth, business manager, are two very great successes.

Walter Lawley is making a big success of "Let the Rest of the World Go By."

Charman and Cooper have the following Feldman numbers, with which they are scoring heavily: "Oh, What a Pal Was Mary," "Movieland," "Down on the Farm" and "Tell Me."

Nora Dundas is taking up the big ballad, "Let the Rest of the World Go By."

Granville Hope's "Merry Madcaps" at the Pavilion, Moreton, Cheshire, are happy in the possession of the Feldman winners, which they report as going strong.

"Kelly's Got Married To-day" is a big feature of Douglas' popular music. Eddie Walker is singing it at the Villa Marina, and everybody else is following his good example.

Courtney and Desmond are featuring "Tell Me" with good results.

Roy Quentin is making a great success in "What Has Become of the Girl You Met at Margate?", "Come for a Motor Scooter Joyride," "Underneath the Wishing Moon," Malabar" and "Across the Still Lagoon."

Dan Lloyd, at the Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth, is working a number of Arthur Street successes.

Tony King says, "Till We Meet Again" is the biggest number he has had in 14 years.

Kitty Leonard is very successful in "Have a Smile," "Mammy o'Mine" and "Let the Rest of the World Go By."

Quest Paula, of J. Field's Concert Party, at the Casino, Littlehampton, writes: "I am making a big success with "Bye Lo," "That Wonderful Kid from Madrid" and "Who's Coming to the Tartan Ball?"

Jack Sutton reports his success in "Oh, What a Pal Was Mary."

Star Music Co.

Betty Barclay and George Glover at the Palladium, last week, made a special feature of J. P. Long and Maurice Scott's delightful song, "If We Found a Little Corner in this Great Big World." The popularity of the number was testified at each performance throughout the week by the hearty applause which followed Betty Barclay and George Glover's artistic rendering. They are continuing their success at the Empire, Cardiff, this week. Phil Parsons is the cause of much merriment at Collins's, Islington, with "I Know Where the Flies Go." This song is also proving its worth as a laughter-maker at the Empire, Sheffield, in the hands of Fred Curran. Jen Latona is going bigger than ever at the Empire, Newcastle, with "Why Did You Teach Me to Love You?" and "There's a Little Bit of Devil in Ev'ry Little Angel."

The Gresham Singers' rendering of "Down in Virginia" at the Coliseum this week is a musical treat. Reg. Wentworth is doing well with "Oh! That Baby o' Mine" at the Pavilion, Ayr. Jim C. Max reports success with the same number at the Hippodrome, Preston. Hilda Glyder is making a decided hit with "Stop It! John" at the Empire, West Hartlepool. Gertie Gitana is singing "You Made Me Happy for a While" to enthusiastic audiences at the Hippodrome, Brighton. Feldman's "Songsters" at Douglas, Isle of Man, are featuring a budget of Star successes. The talented company includes Harold Brown, Maud Hughes, Laurie Haberlin, Marjorie Russell, Reg. Ewen, Dudley Vincent, and Eddie Walker. There is every prospect of a record season, and the party have been particularly successful with the following songs:—"Why Did You Teach Me to Love You?" "If We Found a Little Corner in this Great Big World," "There's a Little Bit of Devil in Ev'ry Little Angel," "I Know Where the Flies Go," "Mammy's Mississippi Home," "Stop It! John," "Oliver," "You Can't Fool Around with the Women," "Oh! That Baby o' Mine," and "Come and Do the Kelly Two-Step."

Francis & Day's.

"I'm Getting Tired Playing Second Fiddle," the lilting melody of which is a great favourite with habitués of the Palace Theatre, where Anita Elson is singing it in "The Whirligig," and likewise an equal favourite with admirers of George Lashwood, who is singing it at all engagements, is now hailed as one of the big hits of the season at seaside resorts, concert parties and bandmasters invariably including it in their schemes, and framers of dance programmes specially featuring it. The call for band parts, which are now ready, is great.

Felix Godin, the widely-known composer of "Valse Septembre," whose orchestra is this season at the Villa Marina, Douglas, is finding his latest and best waltz, "Lovely Lucerne," in constant request. Godin is also featuring as a cornet solo D. Cameron Forrester and Henry B. Pether's popular ballad, "God Keep You, Dearest Heart," and eliciting encores every time. The haunting melody of this fine song is rapidly earning it a place in the repertoires of a large and increasing circle of prominent ballad singers.

By the way, Ethel Goode, whose singing of "God Keep You, Dearest Heart," has won so much deserved commendation from Press and public alike, is this week appearing at the Kingston Empire.

Advices to hand from Blackpool and other important pleasure places record the emphatic success of the ballads and songs of the house, notably among them being "Love Sends a Little Gift of Roses," "Homely," "That Dear Old Song," "Love's Lullabye," "Just for Me and Mary," "In Monterey," "Italiano," and "Swanee."

Clarice Mayne's "Blushing Moon"—which, with "A Great Big Kiss," and other items of excellence is being sung by the popular artist at the London Coliseum this week—is in great demand among the myriad members of the world of entertainment who "follow" so sure a lead.

At Camberwell Nellie Wigley is singing with best results "That Dear Old Song," which suits to a nicety the vocalist's winsome manner.

Ernest Hastings, at the Palladium, is scoring heavily with such songs as "The Future Variety Show," "The Seaside Posters," and "Muldoon's Ball."

At Wood Green Herbert Lee, with "Now U.S.A.'s Gone D—r—y" and "Over Home" is the recipient of the heartiest applause at each performance.

Keith, Prowse and Co.

Mr. Arthur Jay (the Bondonas Concert Party) writes: "I take double encores nightly with 'The Carrier's Courtship' and 'Sanctuary,' and Miss Allan never fails with 'Love in Lilac Time.'" Mr. Percy R. Willing (the Anomalies Concert Party) writes: "May I thank you very much for the most excellent numbers you sent me? . . . 'Love in Lilac Time' is beyond all question the biggest ballad I have heard for many years, and my soprano, after singing it for the first time, had a reception almost beyond description." Mr. Frederick Banks (Arcadia Theatre, Scarborough) writes: "Re 'Sanctuary,' the song is a wonder, and goes enormously. I have requests for it every night, and should sing nothing else if I granted all requests." Mr. Thorne Denison (Nottingham) writes: "I have much pleasure in saying that the following songs, 'The Cypress Tree,' "Land of the Golden Day,' and 'Sea Volunteers' Song' were added to my repertoire with most considerable success. Anything new please send at once." Mr. W. Rowe Johns writes: "Many thanks for 'The Carrier's Courtship.' A really fine song, which it is a pleasure to sing." Mr. David Openshaw writes: "I opened at our first concert with 'Sanctuary,' and had a wonderful reception. 'The Carrier's Courtship' is a sure winner, and gets home every time."

Among Keith, Prowse and Co.'s most recent publications the following are worthy of note: "The Call of the Bells," "Heart of June," both by Miss Olive Parner; "Within Your Heart and Mine," by Dorothy Forster; "There is a Happy Garden," by Ida Rutter; and "Love's Triumph," by Olive Turner, sung with great success by Tom Burke at the Albert Hall.

Parker-Charles Music Publishing Co.,

"The Island Delightful" is being sung with great success at Hastings by Edward Beaumont. At Clapton Lily Waller's outstanding item is "I Sing You Songs of Love," in which her fine voice is heard to advantage. Bainbridge Robinson is successfully featuring a Scott-Shaw's "Daphne" and "Jasmine" at Margate Pavilion, and at Ramsgate Hippodrome the same items are specially featured by Norman Batley.

Thomas McCall writes that his best song at Teignmouth is Dorothy Forster's "I

(Continued on page 17.)

FELDMAN SHOOTS

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OH! THAT BABY O' MINE

WHY DID YOU TEACH ME TO LOVE YOU?

YOU CAN'T FOOL AROUND WITH THE WOMEN

I KNOW WHERE THE FLIES GO

STOP IT JOHN

IF WE FOUND A LITTLE CORNER

YOU KNOW YOU WOULD

YOU MADE ME HAPPY FOR A WHILE

OLIVER (YOU MAKE ME GO ALL-OF-A-TWIST)

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THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE PALLADIUM.

Bert is Mont's Cowboy Minstrels are presented in a camping-out scene somewhere in the mountains "out West." The boys—four of them and a lady—join in a "round-up of mirth and melody," while the dinner cooks over a wood fire. Their harmonised singing is very good. The bass gets out some sonorous bass-viol tones in a humorous song about the village orchestra. The baritone's "home and mother" ditty is another acceptable thing in their programme. Cowboy-life incidents vary the singing, and a cleverly harmonised yodel number is an effective finish. A bright show, well received.

Norah Blaney and Gwen Farrar's turn is very pleasing. One is a pianist, the other a 'cellist. Both are clever players and both smart singers of duets, comic and "straight." They deserve all the applause they get, and they get plenty. Max Darewski, always at the top of his form, appears in two of his rôles—as pianist and composer. After the Grieg concerto, played with great brilliance, he followed on, on Monday, with rag-time stuff of his own, and of course the house could not have enough of it. Ernest Hastings' music is mixed with humour at the piano. All he does is well done, but his best is perhaps the "Rag-time Village Blacksmith."

Little Tich gets a great reception. He soon wakes things up with "Billy Robinson" ("always the little gentleman, although on the 'alls"), and his "Pet of the Chorus" leaves the audience roaring.

Daisy Dormer, another big Palladium favourite, is doing her "Widow Riley" song, and—in a wonderful rainbow-coloured sinon frock—the always charming "One Little Mile From Home." Comedian Harry Ford has two good numbers, one a song about the comforts (?) of a home, the other a discourse in the character of Old Bill, Labour M.P. Both go down well.

An exceedingly interesting and effective protean act is given by Owen McGiveney. His sketch is the murder scene in "Oliver Twist." He plays Bill Sikes, Nancy, Fagin, the Dodger, and Monk. His characterisation is very clever in every part, and he changes dress and make-up with almost incredible rapidity.

Spence and Jocelyn's "American Cocktail," a blend of song and dance livened with dashes of cross-talk, seemed to be just the sort of thing for a hot evening. Zelda and Freda Jensen, dancers, were down in the bill but did not appear at the six o'clock house on Monday. June Mills, a vimful and energetic American comedienne, in a couple of coon and Tennessee songs, assisted by Wm. Innes, a resounding bass-baritone, deputised for Chinko and Kaufmann, and "made good."

There were two acrobatic turns. The Flying Veros appeared in a sensational "whirlwind" trapeze act, and the Mountfords, a duo presenting clever balancing feats, were a hit as an "extra" first turn, doubted experts in that brand of simultaneous dancing where the comedy partner is always finding himself left. Miss Violet Essex appears, with her usual conspicuous success, in several new numbers, including a melodious ditty, "Lantern Time," and at least one old favourite, "Any Time is Kissing Time," and her act is as beautifully staged as ever.

Messrs. Scott and Whaley make one of the undoubted hits of the evening. Altercation is, of course, the motif of their latest and amusing act. When Scott and Whaley quarrel all the world laughs. The particular bones of contention in this case are a trifling loan of half-a-crown and a slight difference of opinion as to the way to "lay" a ghost. The scene in the haunted house is full of amusing possibilities, which these worthies exploit to the utmost. The new act won instant approval, and should serve Messrs. Scott and Whaley for many a long day. "Fun in a School-room," presented by the Five Nuts, which concludes the entertainment, is a capital piece of knockabout humour which pursues a rapid course through fifteen minutes' traffic of the stage. Two dwarf comedians contribute greatly to the merrymaking.

FRANK VARNEY & TEDDIE BUTT
in new act by R. P. WESTON & BERT LEE.
Next week—HOLBORN EMPIRE

NEW CROSS EMPIRE

Wilkie Bard "tops the bill" at the New Cross Empire this week, and on Monday evening gave "On Sentry Go" and "The Cleaner." His sentry, who has been on one "beat" for 3 years, is one of his funniest character sketches. The cross-talk with an officer, who has a flask, created roars of laughter. His stage cleaner was equally diverting, and the popular comedian was given the heartiest of receptions.

Les Nino at once caught the humour of the house with his clever violin-playing. Discarding the bow, he performed miracles of melody with a plate and any other old thing that come his way. He can literally make the violin speak, and, "Bon jour, Messieur," was one of its remarks not to be mistaken. With Nino, the bow does not play the violin: the violin plays the bow. Yvonne Granville, another artist who is a great favourite, well merited the hearty reception she obtained with her rendering of "The Kingdom Within Your Eyes," and "Come to Paris With Me," the latter item earning a well-deserved encore.

As an exponent of what can be done on roller skates, Willie Rolls is bad to beat, and he gave a marvellous exhibition of somersaulting while on the wheels, including a jump over a table, &c. Discarding his skates, he gave an exhibition of stilt-walking—only he does not use stilts, but a spade, on which he travels upstairs and downstairs. As a wind-up to an exciting performance he resumes his skates and gives a clever step-dance, suspended over the stage. His final "take-off" is a thrill.

Rich & Galvin gave a unique walking-stick dance, and are very clever with their acrobatics. Attired in dress clothes, with top-hats complete, they go through their business without disarranging a tie or a "topper." A "yodelling" song by one of the duo was rendered with great éclat.

Frank O'Dell, with his anecdotes and rich tenor voice, and the Villions, with their clever comedy and cycling tricks and whirlwind dancing, also helped to add to the gaiety of the evening. As the new style comedienne, May Sherrard brought down the house with her numbers, the audience never seeming to have enough of her laughter-raising efforts.

FRANK VARNEY & TEDDIE BUTT
in new act by R. P. WESTON & BERT LEE.
Next week—HOLBORN EMPIRE

COLLINS'S, ISLINGTON.

The Powers give a capital burlesque singing and dancing act, the lady having a good voice, which is heard in "Mother," and the gentleman showing plenty of comedy in his dancing and interruptions of juggling, the concluding operatic burlesque getting many hearty laughs. Haley's Juveniles in their clever vocal and dancing scena proved perfectly trained in every stage detail, their own pleasure in working being equal to the audience's evident enjoyment at a talented act.

Alexandre gave whistling imitations of birds realistically, and his whistling march was wonderfully performed. Gordon Finlay is a clever Scotch entertainer, his dialect songs, recitation and stories all being much enjoyed. Popular Daisy James, whether in demure Quaker number or burlesque chorus, receives hearty applause. The Deldees open with a quarrelling duet, changing into farmer's costume, and finish in good voices in evening dress, presenting a novel singing show. Robert Reilly is a great favourite in his musical scenas with his two talented assistants. Phil Parsons, always popular in his topical catchy numbers, and Nina and Partner, in a clever gymnastic act, conclude.

FRANK VARNEY & TEDDIE BUTT
in new act by R. P. WESTON & BERT LEE.
Next week—HOLBORN EMPIRE

SOUTH LONDON PALACE.

There may be a slump at some London theatres and music halls, but this certainly does not apply to the South London, for on Monday night Mr. W. Hill presented a fine programme to a packed house. Miss Maudie and Syd McLloyd made an auspicious début in London, proving themselves a very neat double turn. Whilst both possess good singing voices, they rely principally upon their dancing, and give selections of famous American steps, winding up with a cleverly executed eccentric dance. A much appreciated turn was given by Mario Lorenzi, the harpist, who had to concede an encore consisting of snatches of popular songs skilfully welded together. The Three Sisters O'Hara can always be sure of a hearty welcome, for their singing and graceful dancing is a real treat to hear and to watch, and they score especially with their tuneful number "When the Harvest Moon is Shining."

A turn that always appeals is that of mimicry, and when it is given by such a past master as Mr. Charles Norton, there is no more to be said. His "Pro's at the Races" is as good as ever. Chester Courtney, the Dame, caused roars of laughter as a dear old lady who is hunting for her ninth husband. The Two Merry Lees leave one somewhat breathless at the finish of their amusing comedy episode, "A Cinema Plot." A sketch with an original plot is that presented by Mr. Alec Mee and Company, entitled "At Ten O'clock To-morrow," and apart from its novelty it is extremely funny. It serves to introduce Mr. Phil Ray, jun., who is a chip of the old block. Mr. Alec Mee is excellent as the harrassed bridegroom, whilst first rate support is forthcoming from Miss Jean Chalmers. The Six Heralds Family complete the programme.

FRANK VARNEY & TEDDIE BUTT
in new act by R. P. WESTON & BERT LEE.
Next week—HOLBORN EMPIRE

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.

An exceptionally attractive programme is being presented here this week. Will Evans and company are appearing in that funny sketch, "The Lost Umbrella," which goes with a roar from start to finish, and is full of witty dialogue and unhackneyed "business"; Ivy Hurley, a dainty little soubrette, of real youthfulness, dances delightfully, and rattles prettily through a couple of songs, the better of which is "I Love that Dear Old Southern Home of Mine"; Ripley Evans and Amy Bingham gain appreciation with their concerted comedy, in which a concertina plays a pleasing part. Theo. Ward is a magnificent pianist, who would charm any audience with his "Masterpieces," and who, if Monday night's audience be any criterion, will get as much applause this week as any turn on the bill.

Herbert Lee, a dandy American light comedian, wears clothes that will make him the envy of those who have to wear standard suits, and he sings a couple of excellent songs, including an anti-Pussyfoot one, in which he contrasts the advantages of a "wet" England with a "dry" America; Fyne and Hurley, though not particularly early are certainly fine, their burlesque of the convict's return scene being the funniest thing imaginable; Arthur Pond is a real comedian with a most original style, which is seen to great advantage in a capital song, entitled "I'd Like a Nice Cup of Tea In Bed." He has a powerful singing voice, which he utilises most skilfully in a clever burlesque of some wedding festivities, in which he sings baritone, tenor, bass, and falsetto. Last, but emphatically not least, the Five Jovers, who come from the land famous for toreadors and onions, present a musical and comedy acrobatic act which is full of daring "stunts" of a most novel kind, and arouse the audience to the utmost enthusiasm.

THE CAMBERWELL PALACE

Topping the bill here is Mr. Harry Tate, in "Selling a Car." Whether one has seen this priceless gem of humour before or whether one sees it for the first time, as a laughter-provoker it proves irresistible. On Monday evening, the comedian was in wonderfully good form, and continuous laughter accompanied his efforts to obtain a purchaser for his derelict "bus." That excellent ventriloquist, Johnson Clark, is another of the "stars" to be seen here this week. In his new act, "Wishing Well Farm," he is heard at his best. The dialogue is particularly well written.

A troupe of really talented youngsters are Terry's Juveniles, and they provide a wonderful illustration of what careful and clever training can do. A feature of their most attractive act is their delightful spirit of enjoyment in all they do. Phil and Philora, in their act, which is termed "Silent Comedy," contribute some marvellous dancing of the whirlwind order. Tim Nolan, an eccentric comedian with quaintly original methods, helped to solve the great problem as to the destination of the hibernating flies, and in doing so, scored a distinct hit on Monday night, as did the pantomime favourite, Nellie Wigley, in her charming songs. Some clever dialect impressions of a Lancashire mill girl and a cockney woman were provided by Aimee Roberts. De Alma, the banjoists, and Spessell Bros & Mack are also in the programme.

COLLINS'S OLD CHAIRMAN.

DEATH OF JOHN READ.

Mr. John Read, who was for thirty years the chairman at Collins's Music Hall, died on Thursday last at the residence of his son, Mr. Herbert Read, Harringay-grove, Turnpike-lane, Hornsey, as the result of a fall downstairs. He was over eighty years of age, and had lived in retirement since the late Mr. Herbert Sprake sold his interest in the old-established hall at Islington Green.

Mr. Read was in his early days a prolific song-writer, and also a popular motto vocalist. Among his most successful songs, written in the early 'sixties and onwards, were "Down by the Old Mill Stream," "Grandmother's Old Armchair," "Johnny Morgan," "Every Inch a Sailor," "Tiddley Wink the Barber," and more recently he wrote for Mr. Hamilton Hill "Soldiers and Sailors of the King" and "A Letter From the Front." Mr. Read had been blind for several years, but considering his great age was able to get about well. He had been ill only about two months, and the shock of the fall no doubt hastened his end.

The deceased leaves a widow, and the old couple celebrated their golden wedding on Nov. 11, 1907. Mrs. Read was known to a bygone generation of music hall lovers as Miss Beatrice Bermond. She made her first appearance at the old Borough music hall sixty years ago, when she played in "Pepper's Ghost." Afterwards she went to the Alhambra, where she scored such a big success with "The Dumb Wife" that she stayed a twelvemonth. She also appeared at the London Pavilion and the Trocadero, where she sang her popular songs, written by Mr. Read, "He Kissed Me Once, How Ashamed I Was," "Only a Penny," and "The Flower Girl."

Mrs. Read wishes to express, through "The Era," her deep appreciation to the many kind friends who have written expressing their sympathy for her in her sad bereavement, as on account of her age she cannot notify all by post, much as she would like to do so. The funeral took place at Southgate Cemetery on Monday afternoon.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

The programme here this week is an exceedingly good one. Ernie Redfern sings "It's a Long, Long Way From the Colonies" and "What is the Attraction at the Picture Shows?" in excellent style, and is much appreciated. Popular Victoria Monks scores with "I'm the Extra Turn," "The Dangerous Boys," "My Daddy is Wonderful," and "I'm Going Home to Jacksonville." Bergonzi, as the inebriated violinist, is also a favourite, his rendering of operatic and other selections evoking loud applause. He is clearly a clever musician, apart from his trick playing.

Nixon Grey keeps the house in a roar with his "Spare the Baby's Chair," "The Rose," and "I'm Going to Iceland," each one of which contains delightful humour. Jock McKay is a truly canny Scot; his jokes, mostly against himself, savour well of the North, and are well received. N. Carter Slaughter and company appear in a clever sketch, "Too Many Wives," in which there is some good acting by all the cast.

NEW CONCERT PAVILION AT SOUTHEND.

The new concert pavilion in the Happy Valley, Southend-on-Sea, of which Mr. Herman Darewski is the managing director, was opened on Saturday night. The building, which has been erected in about a month, men working night and day and Sundays, is in a particularly appropriate spot, sheltered from the wind, facing the sea, and surrounded on three sides with an abundance of foliage, now at its best. It is a rectangular building with dome-shaped roof, the sides being sliding glass windows. The end nearest the sea is of cement, and here is a commodious stage (with all necessary dressing-rooms), of which the audience has a fine and uninterrupted view. Tip-up seats have been provided, and the seating capacity is 1,200. The prices are limited to 1s. and 9d.

The artists appearing this week are the Rhapsodies, including Dorothy Wills, Lena Lawton, Evelyn May, Maude Maye, George Beecroft and Frank Dunlop; Robert Pitt and Langton Marks, in up-to-date duets; Miss Phyllis Norman Parker, solo pianist and accompanist; Gertrude Mayo, accompanist; Ernest Pike, tenor, Rex Harold, genial comedian; Miss May Windsor, comedy sketch artist; Mr. Willy Lunn and Miss Cissie Hart, living marionettes.

"UNDER THE CLOCK," SOUTH SHIELDS

An additional seaside attraction for the residents of and visitors to South Shields has been provided by the establishment of a new Pavilion and Concert Hall on the Pier Parade, near the entrance to the pier, which is a mile in length. The building, which will be known as the "Under-the-Clock Pavilion," is substantially built of brick, and is fitted with commodious dressing rooms and offices. The holding capacity is about 800, with prices ranging from 9d. to 1/10, and a complete system of booking has been instituted. Performances will be given twice nightly. The scheme of decoration is at once simple but effective, and nothing has been left undone for the comfort and convenience of those on both sides of the curtain. The Lessees and Managers are Mr. F. Marriott Watson, the well-known theatrical manager, and Captain Julian Bainbridge, who recently appeared as leading man in the Repertoire Season at the Theatre Royal, subsequent to his return from the East, where he served with distinction in the Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

The "Under-the-Clock" Pavilion opened on Monday with "The Queer's" Costume Concert Party, under the direction of Mr. George V. Kelly.

Mike Whallen in Town.

The popular Mike Whallen was in town last week at the Finsbury Park Empire, where he was given a very enthusiastic welcome, his songs, stories, and monologues being much enjoyed. Mike goes to Ireland this week, and will be back to play Stratford in a month's time.

Jim Nolan.

Looking in at Collins's one night last week, we found Jim Nolan, who had popped over from the Bedford to deputise, making a big hit. Jim has some great stories, and his funny burlesques were much enjoyed. Jim goes to Blackpool shortly with his new song, "I Come from Lancashire," which has a capital melody.

THE OXFORD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

Mr. Walter Payne (chairman and managing director) presided at the twenty-eighth annual meeting of the Oxford, Ltd., held at the Oxford Theatre on the 14th inst., and moved the adoption of the report and accounts, including the recommendation to pay a further dividend of 6 per cent., less income tax, making, with the interim dividend, 10 per cent. for the year; to add £5,982 to the general reserve fund, making the total up to £25,000, and to carry forward the balance to the current year's account.

He said that the results of the financial year were not, as he had foreshadowed would be the case, up to those of the two previous years, but they were good. After referring to what some very astute people regarded as a menace to the theatre—the cinema—Mr. Payne said he was among those who believed that the eye would not cease to delight in seeing the good, well-acted, well-mounted, and well-dressed play, which, with the help of modern authors, artists, and actors, could be produced, nor would the ear cease to enjoy the beauty and appeal of the well-trained human singing and speaking voice. With these considerations appertaining to the future and to the art of the theatre in view, and with, he must confess, the wicked commercial manager's desire to secure the best entertainment without loss to his supporters or shareholders, he had discussed at some length the future of the Oxford with Mr. Cochran. It was perhaps hardly necessary to remind old shareholders that their alliance with Mr. Cochran had been of the happiest kind, and they all wish that it might so continue.

Referring next to the financial position, Mr. Payne said that since May, 1917, they had paid 31 per cent. in dividends, paid off mortages and loans of £33,000, and spent £10,000 on renovations and repairs of your theatre. They had also written off £5,000, the depreciation of our investments owing to the war. After doing this their property, the greater part of which was on freehold land, stood with a fully equipper theatre at the moderate figure of £117,000 in the balance-sheet, and when the 6 per cent. now recommended had been paid, they would have available for liquidating their debts of £5,000 odd and for working capital, nearly £20,000 in cash and securities.

He was hopeful that at an early date they would be able to conclude a new agreement, by virtue of which Mr. Cochran would undertake to spend a very substantial sum on improving the stage, the lighting, heating, ventillation, furnishing and decorating of the theatre, to guarantee by a substantial deposit the payment of an annual sum which would be sufficient to cover all standing charges and a dividend of not less than 10 per cent. to the shareholders.

Mr. H. H. Wells seconded the resolution.

In the course of a short discussion several shareholders expressed their approval of the results of the year, and questions were asked as to the details of the new arrangement with Mr. Cochran.

The resolution was unanimously adopted, Mr. Joseph Davis, the retiring director, was re-elected, the auditor was reappointed, and 550 guineas were voted to the directors by way of additional remuneration.

Will Hay's Wonderful "Prop."

Looking in at Finsbury Park last week to see Will Hay, we discovered him in his dressing-room putting the finishing touches to a new prop. for his act. This is a crocodile which has been ingeniously constructed by Will and his clever assistants in the sketch. It moves across the stage quite realistically, and is a skilful piece of mechanism. Will tells us that owing to the success of his sketch, "Find the Beetle," he has been obliged to refuse two offers for productions.

SONGS AND SINGERS.

(Continued from page 14.)

Just Want You." This excellent tenor is one of many who have decided to make "I Just Want You" their outstanding number throughout the season.

At Kingston Joseph McLean is singing "The Sergeant Major" and "A Last Request," and at Scarborough Bessie Burke is making a great success with "Lindy's Wedding." Gilbert Hill's "Iron Trail" is obtaining an excellent reception at Alhambra, Stourbridge. In "Daddalums," at Wyndham's Theatre, "The Blue Mosque" is achieving success.

Maurice Piesa.

Among the latest publications of this go-ahead firm which should have a place in the repertoire of every musical director, being admirably suited to cinema and restaurant work, are "Ideal Vertige," by Crews, an intermezzo waltz well up to the previous standard of this popular composer, and "Der Schelmische Faun," by Sametski, a light and dainty number, published for small orchestra. Mr. Piesa has also published an edition de luxe of his popular waltz, "Chimeres," which is now well known all over the country. Two other "hits" are Popy's "Venise," a beautiful restful melody, and "Carnival Parisien," a merry, light number by the same author. These are published for full and small orchestras, and are numbers which ought not to be missed.

RINGLAND'S MONSTER CIRCUS.

Ringland's Circus, Menagerie and Museum of Novelties, which is making its first tour in Great Britain, visited Dundee on Friday and Saturday, 18th and 19th inst., being located on the Esplanade. Two performances were given daily, and were well patronised. The menagerie section is a most complete one, there being a splendid collection of lions, leopards, bears, zebras, elephants, camels, monkeys, reptiles, and other wild and domesticated animals. The circus programme was of a varied and interesting order. The trick riding by ladies and gentlemen was above the average, and the humour dispensed by the clowns was much enjoyed. A special word of praise must be accorded the Famous 10 Real Wexian Arabs, whose athletic display was of exceptional brilliance. The show is excellently organised.

RECORD PUBLISHING.

Ralph Burnham's new song, "Mary Rose," which Mme. Calve is to sing at her recital next Friday afternoon at Queen's Hall, constitutes a record publication under the present difficult conditions. The words were given to the composer on Saturday, the 7th. He set it to music on the Sunday, and it was in the publisher's hands by Tuesday. The first proof was delivered on Thursday; on Friday a corrected proof was sent to Mme. Calve in Paris by air post, and on Saturday, the 14th, Messrs. Warren and Phillips, the publishers, had the song on sale, exactly a week after it was first thought of.

Bruce Green.

The wonderful dame comedian, Bruce Green, is at the top of his form at present, and L.T.V. audiences are acclaiming him a great favourite. He has two new songs, "That Was Enough for Me," by Percival Langley, and "I'm a Wonderful Kid from Madrid." Bruce, who plays in panto. at Liverpool this year for Messrs. Wylie and Tate again, tells us that for the next six years he plays in London 28 weeks a year.

Paul Gordon.

The wire-walking wonder, Paul Gordon, made his reappearance in town last week at New Cross after playing a six months' season on the Continent, which was very successful. Paul is playing at the Stratford Empire this week.

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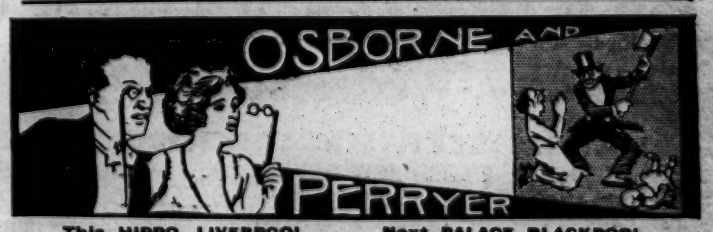

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"THE ERA" FILM SECTION

TOPICS OF THE TRADE.

THE FICKLENESS OF FILM PRODUCERS.

A NEW INTELLIGENCE WANTED.

THERE has been a tendency, lately, on the part of some of our producers to complain that a famine exists in respect of material suitable for screening. Producers of this type spend a considerable amount of time trying to guess what the public wants next, and if all the cogitation thus dissipated were to be invested in intelligent production we feel sure that the number of failures would be enormously decreased. It is all very well to trot out the old gag about "the fickleness of the public" but it seems to us that in the film world it is the producer who is fickle. The public has been going to see Mary Pickford and Charlie Chaplin for years, and there is no indication, at present, that it is contemplating a change of affection. On the other hand, the producer is continually worrying himself for something new to catch the public eye.

What the screen is in need of is not new material but new intelligence. No material is ever new, for the most novel plot that Barrie, Shaw, or Maeterlink could compile has been done before—somewhere. But its treatment can be new, and novel treatment is the keynote to success in the drama of the screen.

ABUNDANCE OF MATERIAL.

And the responsibility for introducing it lies as much on the producer as on the playwright.

So far from there being a dearth of good scripts—as is alleged—we are of opinion that there are, every season, more than enough available to keep the existing producers continually at work. That is if these gentlemen, instead of employing a telescope and searching the horizon for the unobtainable, will cast their eyes around them and take cognisance of the plots that are waiting to be noticed under their very noses. To an unintelligent or cursory glance many of the ideas contained in these may appear venerable and decrepit for, in effect, they wear old clothes. But if the producer will strip off the threadbare garments which cover them he will find, in each case, a healthy youngster ready and eager to be introduced to the world and to be worked as hard as the producer and his employer, the film manufacturer, may desire.

ROUND ABOUT FILMLAND.

New British Productions—Brighton's Daylight Cinema —A Master of Make-up.

"The Fordington Twins."

"The Fordington Twins," which Will Kellino is now directing at the Gaumont Studios, is to be the first of a new brand of British productions which are to be produced by, and will be the sole property of, the Gaumont Company, Limited.

"Helen of Four Gates."

Cecil M. Hepworth has just started work on a new production, an adaptation of "Helen of Four Gates," a human and interesting narrative of the romance of a mill girl. Miss Alma Taylor will play the heroine, and Mr. James Carew also has a strong part.

"The Sword of Damocles."

The B. & C. have started on their new production, "The Sword of Damocles," by H. V. Esmond, who with Miss Jose Collins is playing the lead. Other members of the cast are Claud Fleming, Bobby Andrews, Miss Lorenzo, and Wm. Sorley. The film will be produced by George Ridgwell.

Boxer and Film Artist.

There is no truth in the rumour that Capt. Gordon Coghill, D.S.O., M.C., the hero in Granger's new photoplay, "The Way of the World," is to desert boxing. The Australian feather-weight champion says "he has time and energy to hold his own both as a boxer and a film artist."

"Her Own People."

Granger's, who have given so many book subjects to the screen, have yet another popular favourite down for early showing. A Samuelson production, it bears the title of "Her Own People," a name it takes from the extensively read book by B. M. Croker. Daisy Burrell and Campbell Gullan play leading parts in this production.

Palace Pier, Brighton, Attractions.

A daylight kinema has been proving a successful venture on the Palace Pier, Brighton. Many innovations are about to be introduced now that Sir William Gentle, the retiring Chief Constable of Brighton, is to take the helm there. No one knows better than he the class of entertainment suited to Brighton playgoers and visitors seeking amusement.

Empire, Douglas, I.O.M.

The Empire Theatre, Douglas, I.O.M., refurnished, re-decorated, and generally overhauled from floor to ceiling, has been reopened. The new proprietor is Mr. J. Carter, and the resident manager is Mr. Percival Carter. The policy at the cosy little theatre for the present will be pictures. The new manager is no neophyte at the game. He has had considerable experience, as he was resident manager for the previous lessee, Mr. Charles Dare, for some time before the war. All will wish him well in the new venture, which has opened auspiciously, delighted audiences being the rule.

"The Crepe Hair King."

Rolf Leslie, the "crepe hair king," noted as one of the cleverest manipulators of make-up in England, plays one of the down-at-heel tramp rôles for which he is famous, in the Anglo-Hollandia production, "Nurse Brown?" and does some unique character work in this picture, for which he travelled specially to Holland. Leslie has something of a record for the number of screen rôles he has played, having appeared in over 500 distinct characterisations during the past ten years, and has achieved yet another record by playing 27 separate rôles in one picture —Barker's "Sixty Years a Queen." In "Nurse Brown" he is first seen as an under-gardener on a big estate, from which post he is dismissed for drinking, and his transformation from this character to the gypsy tramp whom he becomes, broken down and aged, is a remarkable piece of realistic work.

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BIRMINGHAM—FUTURIST .. .. .. SUNDAY, JULY 4th, at 7 p.m.
GLASGOW—JURY'S THEATRE .. .. .. TUESDAY, JULY 6th, at 2.30 p.m.
CARDIFF—OLYMPIA .. .. FRIDAY, JULY 9th, at 2.30 p.m.
LIVERPOOL—PRINCE OF WALES PICTURE HOUSE TUESDAY, JULY 13th, at 11 a.m.
SHEFFIELD—TIVOLI .. .. THURSDAY, JULY 15th, at 11 a.m.
LEEDS—CINEMA EXCHANGE .. .. FRIDAY, JULY 16th, at 10.40 a.m.

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TRADE SHOWS OF THE WEEK.

By "THE ERA" SPECIAL REVIEWERS.

"HOLD ON."

WEALTH BRINGS DISASTER IN ITS WAKE

Production ..... Vie
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Gustavus Salvini
Length ..... 5 Reels
Distributors ..... L.I.F.T.

An original and forceful production, "Hold On" is likely to please most audiences. Andrea Cator, a wealthy banker, uses the funds of the bank he directs to support a daring coup on the Stock Exchange. A rumour of Cator's insolvency causes the co-directors to order him to return the borrowed money immediately. Germont, the secretary, instructed to repay the sum to the bank, retains the money and spreads abroad the rumour of Cator's ruin. To avoid arrest the banker is forced to leave the country and start afresh to restore, if possible, the lost fortune. After two years of toil in a factory, he is able to return home, only to find, however, that his children are separated, and in poor circumstances. When the little family are together once again, poorer but happier, Cator shows a desire to revenge himself on Germont. The latter has, however, been shot by another victim, and his former employer is nearly convicted of the crime. Cator's son is responsible for the acquittal of his father, who is able to look forward to a peaceful old age.

* * *

"MOLLY AND I."

BLIND AUTHOR AND DEVOTED WIFE.

Production ..... William Fox
Type ..... Comedy Drama
Star ..... Shirley Mason
Length ..... 5 Reels

"Molly and I" proves an excellent medium for that charming little lady, Shirley Mason. The heroine of the story is Shirley Brown, who, living a dull life in a boarding-house, longs above all else for a share of romance. The great desire of Phillip Smith, a blind author, is to obtain money to pay for an expensive operation, and Shirley, who inherits wealth on her wedding day, persuades him to marry her. After the operation, which is successful, Phillip endeavours to forget his unknown wife in the friendship of Marion Sutherland, a member of the Italian Artists' Colony. Shirley, jealous of the other woman, disguises herself as a French peasant, and insists upon keeping house for her husband and his friend. Gradually both men succumb to the girl's charms, but an accident to Phillip gives Marion the opportunity of dismissing "Molly." The latter, however, realises Phillip's love for her, and finally she discloses her identity, and a happy honeymoon follows.

* * *

"BEYOND THE SHADOWS."

TALE OF THE NORTH-WEST FUR TRADERS.

Production ..... Western Import
Type ..... Drama
Stars .... William Desmond and Josie Sedgwick
Length ..... Five Reels
Release ..... April 18, 1921

The story of "Beyond the Shadows" concerns Jean Dubois, a young fur trader, who deals honourably with the Indian fur trappers, and accordingly soon gets into the black books of the dishonest managers of the Government camps, who take the best skins from the Indians by sheer force of might. Horace Dubois, his brother, who has yielded to the temptations of drink and robbing the company, comes to the camp at the bidding of the "boss," bringing with him his young wife. Horace calls himself McLaughlin, and is forced by the manager to introduce Elinor as his "daughter." Jean meets her, and the couple fall in love. In the final struggle between the Indians and the free fur traders against the agents of the company the truth is revealed, and though Horace, stricken with remorse, tries to kill himself in order to set Elinor free, Jean prevents it, and effects a reconciliation between husband and wife, watching them depart "Beyond the Shadows" into a new life. With William Desmond as the heroic trader the picture is assured of success, quite apart from its beautiful scenic value, and the excellent all-round acting of a strong cast, which also includes Josie Sedgwick as the girl.

* * *

"BLIND HUSBANDS."

STORY OF A NEGLECTED WIFE AND AN ALPINE TRAGEDY.

Production .. Universal Jewel de Luxe
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... 7,760ft.
Star ..... Eric Strome
Distributors.. Film Booking Offices, Ltd.

"Blind Husbands," screened for Messrs. Film Booking Offices, Ltd., at the Alhambra recently, has many strong situations, with wonderful scenic settings amidst the Tyrolean Alps. The story is concerned with the result of a visit by Dr. Armstrong, a famous American surgeon, and his wife, Margaret, to the little Alpine village of Cortina D'Ampezzo. At the hotel is Lieutenant Eric von Steuben, of the Austrian Army, who pursues every pretty woman he sees. Margaret obviously avoids him, but in her husband's absence he forces himself in her room, and to get rid of him she promises to see him again, but later she writes him giving the reason for this promise and avowing her love only for her husband. Dr. Armstrong's jealousy aroused, he carries off Von Steuben to a high peak, and to save himself as he thinks from death the lieutenant lies about Margaret. Armstrong descends, leaving him on the peak, but further down finds Margaret's letter, which has fallen from the lieutenant, and the shock causes him to lose his foothold. He is rescued by his faithful friend, the Alpine guide, Sepp, whose life he had saved previously, and he is brought back to Margaret, the lieutenant, driven mad by fear, throwing himself from the peak. The acting throughout is excellent, and as a picture of the wonders and perils of mountaineering it is a masterpiece of photography.

* * *

"WITH ALL HER HEART."

GIRL, MASQUERADING AS BOY, WINS HUSBAND.

Production ..... I. B. Davidson
Type ..... Drama
Stars .....Milton Rosmere and Mary Odette
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... Phillips

Lovers of the late Charles Garvice's works will be delighted with this British production, which is packed with incidents which appeal to the romantically inclined. Constance and Ronald Lorton, two orphans living in Australia, are held up by bandits, and forced to take shelter in a miner's hut. On the death of her brother, Cottie dons his clothes, and, mistaken for a boy, joins forces with Geoffrey Bell, the owner of the hut. The "boy" and his new acquaintance are soon firm friends, and later Cottie is sent to England to be educated. Robbed of her money and papers of identification, she is befriended by a neighbour of the Earl of Bassington, who is seeking a rightful heir. The old man is interested in the "lad" on account of a family likeness, and shows him a photograph strongly resembling Geoffrey Bell. The latter comes to England to find his little pal, and by the death of an unscrupulous character is proved to be the missing heir. Cottie, having returned to skirts, is surprised to find herself also a member of the house of Bassington, and there is every prospect of a love match between the late miner and his little friend.

* * *

"THE SEA WOLF."

FUTILITY OF THE DOCTRINE OF MIGHT VERSUS RIGHT.

Production ..... Paramount-Artcraft
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Six Parts
Controllers ..... Lasky

The "sea wolf" of the title is Wolf Larsen, the brutal and piratical master of a sealing vessel, whose only religion is that of might, with the spoils, both material and human, to the victor. By the exercise of brute strength and a cruel nature Larsen maintains a firm hold over his crew, the mere breath of insubordination being followed by ruthless punishment of anyone having the temerity to protest. Owing to a collision on the high seas, a young fellow named Van Weyden and his sweetheart, Maud Brewster, are thrown into his clutches, and Van Weyden made to act as a menial, the wolf's attentions being reserved for Maud. Mutiny at length breaks out on Larsen's floating hell; his crew desert, leaving him helpless on a scuttled ship; and the human monster, stricken blind, has at length to acknowledge a higher power. The story, gruesome but thrilling, is illustrated by some magnificent marine pictures, and is excellently acted.

* * *

"ACE OF THE SADDLE."

FURTHER EXCITING ADVENTURES OF A WELL-KNOWN FILM HERO.

Production ..... Butcher's
Type ..... Comedy-Drama
Star ..... Harry Carey
Length ..... 4,450ft.

A trade show of this exciting and amusing film was given at the West-End Cinema recently, and reintroduced our old friend Harry Cheyenne, whose thrilling adventures, hairbreadth escapes and unfailing gallantry, as depicted with such force and realism by Harry Carey, have endeared him to cinema-goers. The redoubtable ranchman, renowned for his wonderful horsemanship, has been persuaded by his dainty little sweetheart, as prettily portrayed by Miss Peggy Pearce, to lay aside his gun and become a man of peace. All the efforts of the rascally Sheriff Loughlin and his confederates to rouse him to action and prevent his protection by the unwritten law of the Wild West, which holds an unarmed man from open attack, are unavailing until his sweetheart is abducted. Then he lets loose with a vengeance till she is rescued and the Sheriff's gang effectually accounted for, after which he once more settles down to peaceful subjection to his wife and infant heir as a law-abiding citizen. The photography, by Mr. Jack Brown, is of a high order of excellence, and some of the scenery is really exquisite.

"Movie Chats," which preceded the principal picture, presents a series of excellent photographs of subjects of varied interest, such as life on a training-ship, the making of condensed-milk cans, mischievous pets, &c.

* * *

"FALSE EVIDENCE."

FATE TAKES A HAND IN GIRL'S ROMANCE.

Production ..... Metro
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Viola Dana
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... W. & F.

A light but interesting production, "False Evidence" stars dainty Viola Dana, and is worthy of a place in any programme. Madelon M'Tavish, a gay-hearted child of the woods, loves Burr Gordon, although she is pledged to the latter's cousin, Lot. After a dance Madelon, returning through the woods, is attacked by a man. She stabs the stranger with a knife, and is then horrified to see in the moonlight the prostrate figure of Lot. Burr is suspected of the crime, and Madelon's confession of guilt is regarded as a plan to save her lover. To prevent the hanging of Burr the girl agrees to marry Lot should he recover. This he does, and the wedding day approaches. But the news arrives that Madelon's future husband has perished in a storm, and the girl goes to the man she loves.

* * *

"THE DEVIL'S RIDDLE."

LOVERS REUNITED AFTER MANY DISAPPOINTMENTS.

Production ..... William Fox
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Gladys Brockwell
Length ..... Five Reels

"The Devil's Riddle" has strength in every reel, and the "punch" so essential to a successful film. Gladys Brockwell, with her magnetic personality, keeps one interested to the end. Away in the dismal North-West lives Esther Anderson, who longs for love and human companionship. Doctor Jim Barnes, overtaken by a snow storm, is cared for by the girl. Love creeps into their hearts, and Jim swears to return. He is prevented by illness, and Esther believes him unfaithful. Seeking forgetfulness, she joins a touring company, and a year later returns to her home town. Once again she meets Jim, and the two are about to be reunited when the show's leading lady couples Esther's name with that of the manager. Jim refuses to believe in her innocence, and the two separate. This time Esther becomes an artist's model, and agrees to marry a famous Russian artist. Before the wedding she realises the insistent call of true love, and the artist is nearly mad with disappointment at the breaking of the engagement. Prompted by a friend, Jim arrives just in time to rescue her from death at the hands of the artist, and there seems at last a prospect of happiness for the lovers.

* * *

"THE EMPIRE'S SHIELD."

ADMIRALTY OFFICIAL PICTURES. DEPICTING THE WONDERFUL WORK OF OUR NAVY.

Distributors .. Jury's Imperial Pictures, Ltd.

Although at times the early events of the Great War seem very remote, yet, on such an occasion as the trade show of these pictures at the Stoll Picture House recently, it is striking how vividly they remain in our memories. The exploits of the notorious German raider, "Moewe," was screened, and it seemed but yesterday that its outrages were viewed with horror by the whole of the Allied nations. It is a complete and wonderful record, destined originally for the archives of the Imperial German Navy, but the film fell into the hands of the English. The whole journey of the so-called "merchantman" is shown from the time it leaves Wilhelmshaven to the final reception when Von Dahna, the commander, is welcomed back by the German High Seas Fleet. One telling episode is the sinking of the "Yarrowdale," an act that nearly brought America into the fight, for many Americans were on board and taken prisoners. Apart from its interest as a self-condemning indictment of German methods of warfare, the film is an outstanding example of superb photography.

Following this film, in interesting juxtaposition came the Admiralty official pictures, "The Empire's Shield," being a comprehensive account in eleven parts of the wonderful work of the Royal Navy. Not only is the spectacular side portrayed, as when the King inspects the Fleet, or visits the wounded heroes of a great sea fight, but the lesser-known and arduous work of the ship builders, the mine sweepers, and the mercantile marine, is given a worthy prominence. It is a splendid and instructive lesson in the way our nation was protected, and every part is of great interest, the photography of the whole being excellent.

* * *

"THE MAN WHO WOKE UP."

THE OLD STORY OF YOUTH AND AGE.

Production ..... Western Import
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Pauline Starke
Length ..... Five Reels
Release ..... April 11, 1921

There is always sound work in the Western Import dramas, plenty of human interest and a pretty love story. In "The Man Who Woke Up" is shown the eternal struggle between age and youth over the changes which the passage of time have made. Old Colonel Ogleby, an old "Southerner" of the most pronounced type, prides himself on his prejudice against the northern "Yanks," and edits a newspaper plentifully besprinkled with his opinions, which no one heeds, and gives addresses to an audience consisting only of his own family and his one old nigger. When Mr. Foster, a Northern philanthropist, arrives with the intention of helping the little community, trouble arises, and the old Colonel is further embittered. Obtaining a loan on his printing outfit, he departs with his family to a popular seaside resort, and here his daughter becomes engaged to the son of his "enemy," Mr. Foster. The Colonel is unaware that the loan has been made by Foster, and the news is a terrible shock to his pride. It is not, however, until his wife rebels against his antiquated notions, and insists on thanking the philanthropist and bringing back her daughter, that the old man really "wakes up." The acting of Pauline Starke is well suited to the part, and the photography and settings are exceedingly good.

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"PRESTER JOHN."

RELIGIOUS HYPOCRITE'S TERRIBLE END.

Production ..... African
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Ernest Groves
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... I.V.T.A.

"Prester John," Africa's latest film production, is a far-fetched but thrilling adventure tale. The scenes relating to a native uprising are especially well done, while praise must be bestowed upon the photography. Ernest Groves, the hero, has an arduous rôle, which he makes the most of. He is an excellent young actor, and is likely to become a favourite with English audiences. David Crawford, a native of Scotland, employed in an African store, hears rumours of a native rebellion, and makes the startling discovery that the cause of the unrest is one Laputa, a native clergyman who, years before, had preached in his Scottish home-town. Laputa, by illicit diamond-selling, has gained money to enable him to search for the ruby necklace of Prester John, a mythical king, supposed to have ruled over the native races. David, with the assistance of the Commandant of the Frontier Forces, steals the necklace, and defeats Laputa's plan of forming an empire. The black man commits suicide, while David is rescued from death by the arrival of friends.

* * *

"THE HUNDREDTH CHANCE."

SCREEN ADAPTATION OF AN ETHEL M. DELL NOVEL.

Production ..... Stoll Film Co.
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Mary Glyn
Length ..... Five Reels

The latest Ethel M. Dell's novel to be filmed is "The Hundredth Chance," which was well received at the trade show at the Alhambra recently. Miss Mary Glyn is charming as Maud, the weak but attractive heroine, while Dennis Nelson Terry does some convincing work in the rôle of Lord Saltash. The remaining characters are all well played. Included in the film are some very fine seascapes, a horse race, and an operation, and as is usual with the firm of Stoll, the photography leaves nothing to be desired.

* * *

"FOUL PLAY."

SCREEN VERSION OF CHARLES READE'S NOVEL.

Production ..... Master Films
Type ..... Melodrama
Stars ..... Renee Kelly, Henry Hallatt
Length ..... Five Parts
Release ..... March 7, 1921
Distributors .. British Exhibitors' Films, Ltd.

This excellent British production was shown at the London Pavilion on Tuesday, the 15th, and had a very hearty reception from the large audience assembled. From every point of view "Foul Play," based on the famous novel of Charles Reade, should prove successful, the acting and scenic settings of the production being excellent. The story tells how a young clergyman is wrongly accused, convicted, and transported for forgery, and allowed to suffer for the crime of his fellow student, Arthur Wardlaw. Out in Australia in the penal settlement, Robert Penfold is released on parole after two years, and works as gardener in the Governor's estates. He is known as James Seaton, and is instrumental in saving the jewels of Helen Rolleston, the daughter of the Governor, whom he secretly loves. General Rolleston gets him a post, and a pardon, and Penfold, hearing that Helen is going to England to marry the man who ruined him, returns on the same boat. They are shipwrecked, and when ultimately rescued, Helen, who has learned to love him, insists on her father finding the truth of his story, and getting a confession from Wardlaw. The production is made exceptionally interesting by the acting of Renee Kelly as Helen, and Henry Hallatt makes a virile and manly hero. Every attention has been paid to details of dress and period, and the picture will find a welcome wherever shown.

* * *

"RIO GRANDE."

ROMANCE OF THE MEXICAN BORDER.

Production ..... Pathé
Stars .. Allan Sears and Rosemary Theby
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Five Parts

"Rio Grande" is an absorbing story of the Mexican borderland, and the continual strife between the Americans and their Latin neighbours. In the story under notice, Felipe, who had married an American woman, and had deserted her, takes with him his infant daughter, Maria. He leaves his wife to bring up a poor Irish orphan, on whom she takes pity. This boy, named Danny O'Neil, is a true Irishman, witty and warm-hearted, and it is owing to his generous nature that in after years, when the girl before-mentioned, who had been brought up in ignorance that her mother was one of the hated "Gringoes," is caught in a trap set by the Americans, that she owes her life. The gallant Hibernian also promises to make as fervent a lover as he is brave and kind-hearted. The acting was excellent, and some magnificent scenery was shown.

(See our Film Markings.)

* * *

"SECRET OF THE MONASTERY."

TRAGEDY OF A WIFE'S UNFAITHFULNESS.

Production .... Swedish Biograph Co., Ltd.
Stars .. Tore Svenborg and Tora Teya
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Six Parts
Controllers .. General Film Renting Co., Ltd.

This is a thrilling story of the infidelity of a wife who, when accused and denounced by her husband, Count Stangborg, and in fear of her life, pleads frantically that she may be allowed to live. The outraged man answers that only on one condition will he spare her—the condition being that she herself shall kill her child, a living record of her dishonour. In a frenzy of fear the guilty woman is on the point of doing her husband's bidding, when he intervenes, tells her that he had put her to the test to see if she had a spark of honour left, and finding her wanting, thrusts a dagger through her heart. Such is the story in outline, but it must be added that it is illustrated by some supremely beautiful scenes, and is magnificently acted throughout.

(See our Film Markings.)

* * *

"THE DEMON."

AN ORIENTAL ROMANCE.

Production ..... Metro
Star ..... Edith Storey
Type ..... Comedy-Drama
Length ..... Five Parts
Controllers .... W. & F. Film Service

"The Demon" is the description applied to a child named Perdita, who, bought out of pity in the slave market by a young American tourist, named Jim Lassells, grows up a mischievous, wilful, yet good-hearted girl. Left in charge of Jim's two sisters in the island of Corsica, Perdita proves a veritable *enfant terrible* to her guardians. After some years Jim returns to Corsica with his fiancée and her mother, who early incurs the derision of "the demon," the sallies between the ultra-fashionable dame and the blunt-spoken Perdita supplying some of the most amusing scenes in the production. These continual quarrels bring about the estrangement of Lassells and his fiancée, and it is not long before the former realises his affection for Perdita. The acting and scenery are excellent, and the sub-titling worded in the florid language of the East, very amusing.

* * *

"THE LUCK OF GERALDINE."

WIFE'S LOVE TRIUMPHS IN SPITE OF HUSBAND'S DESERTION.

Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Bessie Barriscale
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... Jurys

"The Luck of Geraldine" is an interesting domestic drama, excellently acted by the star. A young couple's happiness is in danger of being marred by the wife's relatives, who, inhabiting the same house, embarrass, by their noisiness, the husband's work as a playwright. The arrival of a member of the New York smart set brings trouble in its wake, for the woman's resolve to part husband and wife is successful. Callously deserting his wife and children, the man goes to the city, where he refuses to entertain any idea of reconciliation, and returns unopened all her letters. Later the wife becomes famous on the stage, while her husband, dropped by the woman on account of his inability to write a successful play, endeavours in vain to effect a meeting. At a smart dinner party, Fate brings the two together, and, surrounded by her many admirers, the new star tells the sordid story of her husband's desertion. Afterwards she realises that even now her heart belongs to the father of her children, and for their sakes she agrees to forget the past.

* * *

"BLOOD OF THE IMMORTALS."

COUNT'S EXPERIMENT BRINGS TRAGEDY IN ITS WAKE.

Production ..... Etoile
Type ..... Drama
Stars ..... M. Vibert, Mlle. Sylvaine
Length ..... Six Reels
Distributors ..... Walturdaws

This is an original and interesting production. Count Pamowski's belief in reincarnation causes him to force Naida, his wife, to interest herself in Dr. Pierre Naurdy, a local practitioner. Gabrielle, the doctor's wife, is powerless to prevent her husband's infatuation for Naida, who brings out all the cruel traits of the man's character. Gradually Naida's interest turns to love, and she agrees to elope with the doctor after a costume dinner to be given by her husband. Gabrielle refuses to accompany Naurdy, but sends her father. The latter informs his son-in-law that Naida and her husband are fooling him, and the thought so enrages Naurdy that, rushing to the trysting place, he plunges his dagger into the shoulders of a veiled woman. The arrival of toarch-bearers reveals to the doctor his dreadful mistake, the dead woman being Gabrielle, his wife.

* * *

"A TEMPORARY GENTLEMAN."

SUCCESSFUL SCREEN VERSION OF POPULAR PLAY.

Production ..... Samuelson
Type ..... Comedy Drama
Star ..... Owen Nares
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... Grangers

"A Temporary Gentleman," H. F. Maltby's successful play, is as clever on the screen as it was at the theatres. Owen Nares is quite convincing as the soldier hero, and receives excellent support from Maudie Durham, Tom Reynolds, and Madge Titheradge. Sydney Farebrother's clever character study gives atmosphere and humour to every scene in which she plays. The plots deal with a product of the war, "The Temporary Lieutenant." The particular one in the film is told some pretty hard facts by an angry profiteer, but although he learns his lesson from the wrong man, his snobbish ideas and behaviour deserved something stronger than a lecture. In time the boy becomes a successful commercial traveller, and finally joins forces with a particularly attractive housemaid.

* * *

"THE DARE DEVIL."

TENDERFOOT DARES ALL FOR LOVE'S SAKE.

Production ..... William Fox
Type ..... Comedy-Drama
Star ..... Tom Mix
Length ..... 4 Reels

"The Dare Devil" stars Tom Mix, minus his cow-boy clothes, but plus many unusual stunts. The film bristles with excitement, and there is not one dull moment. "Anything-Once" Atkinson, the son of a railway president, is sent by his long-suffering father to Calm City, as a punishment for his many wild escapades. The name of Atkinson's destination is not in keeping with its inhabitants, and the cow-boys arrange a "shooting" reception for the tenderfoot. Atkinson, however, aquits himself admirably, and he is heartily welcomed by the superintendent and his pretty daughter, Alice. The young couple's friendship soon blossoms into love, and the girl asks "Anything-Once" to save her father's position from jeopardy by capturing some notorious train bandits. In the guise of an outlaw, Atkinson sets out on his mission, and it is not long before the bandits are endeavouring to escape from the country. But Atkinson, inspired by love, carries on to the bitter end, and finally, through his bravery and resourcefulness, wins Alice for his wife, also his father's respect.

THE PICTURE-GOERS' CLUB.

The principal aims and objects of the new Picture-goers' Club, which was officially inaugurated on Thursday night at an enthusiastic meeting at the Rehearsal Theatre, Maiden-lane, are to raise and maintain the literary and artistic standard of the photoplay, to further the interests of the British photoplaywright, and to enlist the sympathy and aid of the Press and public in the furtherance of these endeavours. Also to foster cordial relationship between the general public and the workers in the creative field of film production, and with this object in view to entertain, at social gatherings of the Club, prominent workers—authors, producers, artists, &c.—in the creation of the photoplay.

All who are interested in the literary and artistic development of the photoplay, either as professional workers in the scenario or journalistic spheres, or as members of the picture-going public, are eligible for membership. The Council is to consist of twenty-five members. The annual subscription is fixed at a guinea, free of entrance fee up till September 1 next. The hon. secretary and treasurer of the Club is Mr. J. Squires, whose office is at 172, Wardour-street, W. Communications should be addressed to him there, care of the Club. Among the members already elected to the Council are Miss Edith Craig, Mr. Gaskell Harvey, Mr. Langford Reed, Mr. K. C. Spiers, Captain Garnett, Mr. Nazir Khan, B.A., and Miss Yelva Burnett. Suitable club premises are being sought for in Central London, and the Club's social season will open on September 1, and will continue throughout the winter months.

FORTHCOMING TRADE SHOWS.

LONDON.

Faith (Fox), New Gallery Kinema, 11, June 23.
While the World Laughs (L.I.F.T.), Own Theatre, 3, June 23.
The Slave Mart (U.K. Photos.), 29a, Charing Cross-road, 2.30, June 23.
Corsican Bros. (Moss), London Pavilion, 3, June 23.
Courage of the Commonplace (U.K. Photos.), 29a, Charing Cross-road, 2.30, June 24.
Edge of Youth (Gaumont), Shaftesbury Pav., 11.30, June 24.
The White Dove (Jury), Own Theatre, 10 and 3, June 24.
The Great Shadow (Walturdaw), Shaftesbury Pav., 11.30, June 25.
The White Dove (Jury), Own Theatre, 10 and 3, June 25.
The Flaming Clue (Vitagraph), Piccadilly Cine T., 11, June 25.
High Stakes (West. Imp.), New Gallery, 11, June 29.
Way of the World (Granger), West End, 11, June 29.

BIRMINGHAM.

Master Passion (Perfection Pictures), Futurist, 11, June 23.
Hold On (L.I.F.T.), Scala, 11, June 24.
All of a Sudden Peggy (F.-Lasky), Scala, 11, June 25.
The Hundreth Chance (Stoll), Futurist, 11, June 25.
Hell-hound of Alaska (West. Imp.), Futurist, 7, June 27.
Rio Grande (Pathé), New-street, 10.30, June 29 (and remainder of week at Own Theatre).

CARDIFF.

The Devil's Riddle (Fox), Imperial Playhouse, 11.30, June 23.
The Hundredth Chance (Stoll), Own Theatre, 11 and 3, June 23.
The Hundredth Chance (Stoll), Own Theatre, 11 and 3, June 24.
Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde (F.-Lasky), Pavilion, 11, June 24.
The Hundredth Chance (Stoll), Own Theatre, 11 and 3, June 25.
Virtuous Vamp (Walturdaw), Imperial Cinema, 11.15, June 25.
Hell-hound of Alaska (West. Imp.), 16, Priory-street, 3, June 23, 24, 25.

GLASGOW.

Aristide Pujol (L.I.F.T.), Salon, 11, June 23.
Thou Art the Man (F.-Lasky), Cinema House, 11, June 23.
Lady Tetley's Secret (Jury), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, June 23.
The Greatest Question (Argosy), Cranstons, 11, June 23.
Footlights and Shadows (Argosy), Own Theatre, 11 and 3, June 25.
Daughter Angele (West. Imp.), 182, Trongate, 2.30, June 25.
Smouldering Embers (Pathé), Own Theatre, 11 and 3, June 29.
The Fifth Commandment (Ward's), Scala, June 28.

LEEDS.

From Headquarters (Vitagraph), Cinema Ex., 11, June 23.
A Temporary Gentleman (Granger), Cinema Ex., 10.40, June 23.
The Daredevil (Fox), Cinema Ex., 11.40, June 24.
Blood of the Immortals (Walturdaw), Cinema Ex., 10.40, June 24.
Prester John (I.V.T.A.), Cinema Ex., 11, June 25.
The Fly God (West. Imp.), Cinema Ex., 11.40, June 25.
Man Who Woke Up (West. Imp.), Cinema Ex., 10.40, June 29.

LIVERPOOL.

A Temporary Gentleman (Granger), P.O.W. P.H., 11, June 23.
Man Who Woke Up (West. Imp.), City P.H., 11, June 23.
From Headquarters (Vitagraph), Cinema Ex., 2.30, June 24.
Rio Grande (Pathé), P. of Wales P.H., 10.30, June 24.
Her Son (Walturdaw), City P.H., 11, June 25.
Her Son (Walturdaw), Cinema Ex., 3, June 25.
The Sea Wolf (F.-Lasky), Scala, 11, June 25.

MANCHESTER.

Her Son (Walturdaw), Cinema Ex., June 23.
Ace of the Saddle (Butcher), Palladium, 11, June 23.
The Stronger Sex (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, June 23.
A.B.C. of Love (W. and F.), Deansgate P.H., 11, June 23.
Man Who Woke Up (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 2.30, June 24.
Man Who Woke Up (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, June 25.
Rio Grande (Pathé), Oxford-street P.H., 10.30, June 25.
Hell-hound of Alaska (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, June 29.

NEWCASTLE.

Velvet Hand (Jockelson's), Pavilion, 11.15, June 23.
Daughter Angele (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 11, June 23.
Face at the Window (Phillips), Stoll P.T., 11, June 24.
Smouldering Embers (Pathé), Tyne Theatre, 11, June 25.
While the World Laughs (L.I.F.T.), Pavilion, 11, June 28.
Thou Art the Man (F.-Lasky), Granger P.H., 11, June 25.

SHEFFIELD.

Tin-Pan Alley (Fox), Electra, 11, June 23.
Luck of Geraldine Laird (Jury), Own Theatre, 2.30, June 23.
Prester John (I.V.T.A.), Tivoli, 11, June 24.
The Empire's Shield (Official) (Jury) Own Theatre, 2.30, June 24.
The Empire's Shield (Official) (Jury) Own Theatre, 2.30, June 25.
J'Accuse (Pathé), Albert Hall, 10.30, June 25.
All of a Sudden Peggy (F.-Lasky), 126, Norfolk-street, 11, June 25.
A Temporary Gentleman (Granger), Electra, 11, June 25.
Blind Husbands (F.B.O.), Tivoli, 11, June 25.
Foul Play (B.E.F.), Union-street P.H., 11.30, June 25.
Man Who Woke Up (West. Imp.), Clayton's Bio., 11, June 29.

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FILM MARKINGS.

For the benefit of Exhibitors in London and the Provinces who are booking their programmes solely on our markings, we are in future giving further details. We would point out that the markings allotted to films in this section are given on their relative drawing power to showmen:—

Reference No. .. .. 6—10.

Suit high-class audience .....A | Suit sensational audience C
Suit average audience .....B | Suit any audience .....D

EXCLUSIVES.

Released.	Name.	Brand.	Description.	Feet.	Marks.	Suitability.
March 28..	Black *Is* White	Paramount-Art. Incc.	Melodr'ma	5000	8½	B
April 28 ..	Thou *Art* the Man	Paramount-Lasky	—	500)	9½	B
May 9 ..	Faith	Fox	Drama	4210	8½	B
May 23 ..	From Head Quarters.. ..	Vitagraph	Drama	500)	8½	B
June 21 ..	Pathé-Pictorial	Pathé	—	—	8½	D
June 21 ..	Pathé Gazette	Pathé	—	—	8½	D
June 21 ..	Fox News	Fox	—	—	8½	D
Oct. 11 ..	The Fly Cop	Vitagraph-Semon	Comedy	2000	0	C B
Notknown	A Temporary Gentleman ..	Granger-Samuelson	Comedy-Drama	6000	9½	D
Notknown	A Perfect Day	Grainger-Motorraph	—	1000	0	D
Notknown	Foul Play	British E. Master	—	5000	9½	B
Notknown	A Farmyard Romance ..	W. J. Sennett	Comedy	2000	8½	B
Notknown	The Hell Hound of Alaska ..	W. J. Hart	Drama	5000	0	B
Notknown	The Cigarette Maker's Romance	Wardour-Watts	Drama	6000	8½	B
Notknown	The Lure of Ambition ..	Fox-T. Bara	Melodr'ma	5000	0	B
Notknown	Mutt-Jeff, Manager	Fox Cartoon	Comedy	—	9½	D
Notknown	The Sundown Trail	Renters-Salisbury	Drama	6000	9½	B D
Notknown	The Devil's Clinch	Jury's Sossue Hakawara	Drama	4000	8½	C B
Notknown	Poor Relations	Jury's-Brentwood	Comedy-Drama	5000	0	B D
Notknown	Mothers of Men	Walturdaw-Republic	Drama	6000	9½	C D
Notknown	Rio Grande	Pathé Gold Rooster	Drama	7000	8½	B
Notknown	Blind Youth	Walturdaw	Drama	5000	8½	B
Notknown	The Secret of the Monastery	General-Swedish	Drama	6000	8½	A C B
Notknown	The Edge of Youth	Gaumont-B.S.C.	Drama	6000	8½	B
Notknown	While the World Laughs ..	L.I.F.T.	Drama	5000	0	A B

"THE ERA" FILM SECTION

CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITORS' ASSOCIATION.

SCOTTISH BRANCH.

There will be no further monthly meetings of the Scottish Branch of the C.E.A. until the early part of September. Such was the decision reached at a meeting of the members held in the Central Halls, Bath-street, Glasgow, on Wednesday last, when a motion of Councillor James Welsh that the usual summer time vacation during the months of July and August was heartily supported.

Two important matters on the agenda were the renters' minimum prices and the grading of halls, but neither of these subjects gave rise to much discussion. In connection with the first question, namely, the minimum prices scheme, the secretary said that there was little or nothing to report, while, with regard to the grading of halls, he had to report that all the halls in Scotland had now been graded. The great majority of these halls quite willingly accepted this grading, but about twenty or more sent in certain objections which were in due course considered.

The valuation of picture houses and the vexed question of cross-overs were also dealt with. Regarding the latter matter, the secretary pointed out that if any specific cases of cross-overs were brought to his notice with the necessary particulars as to halls and films and dates, he would see that the information was immediately placed before the renters. The renters had already passed a resolution that they would not provide films for anybody who crossed over, and they were prepared to carry out that undertaking—therefore, it now lay with the exhibitors to bring any definite cases to the official notice. With regard to the valuation of picture houses, a well-known expert on this subject from London offered to give an address on the subject to the members of the Scottish Branch if a convenient date could be arranged, but nothing is being done in the matter meantime.

HULL BRANCH.

There was a good attendance at the meeting of the Hull Branch Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association held in the Grovesnor Hotel on Wednesday, over which the president, Mr. R. Freeman, presided.

The question of stink bombs was discussed, and the hon. secretary reported that he had interviewed the Chief Constable, who told him that he was powerless in the matter. Mr. W. Morton pointed out that in some towns the sale of these things had been stopped by the police. Several of the exhibitors complained that they had been subjected to much annoyance on this matter. Ultimately it was decided to again approach the Chief Constable, and if not satisfactory, that the matter be placed before the Watch Committee.

A letter was read from the local secretary of the N.A.T.E., asking for a conference to consider rates of pay, owing to increase in cost of living. The rates submitted were £4 for day staff, hallkeeper, doormen, watchmen. Money takers, £1 15s. for 24 hours, over that time up to 48 hours, 1s. 6d. per hour. Women cleaners, 1s. per hour, with minimum of 3 hours per day; holidays after 6 months' service, one week on full pay.

It was decided to take no action in the matter.

SCHOOL CINEMAS.

COUNTY COUNCILS TO APPROACH THE TRADE.

At the quarterly meeting of the Executive of the County Councils' Association the Education Committee reported having considered a letter from the Kent Education Committee drawing attention to the urgency of the question of the place of the cinematograph in the education, both formal and informal, of school children, and suggesting that the Committee should appoint a sub-committee to get in touch with the Association of Cinematograph Exhibitors and Cinematgraph Renters with a view to the exploration and solution of the problem.

The Executive decided to make an attempt to co-operate with the responsible bodies in the cinema industry with a view to obtaining, if possible, a solution of the problem of the place of the cinematograph in the school.

It was also agreed to invite the assistance of the Assocation of Municipal Corporations, and the Association of Education Committees in the consideration of the subject.

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"THE LURE OF AMBITION."

HAPPINESS AFTER MUCH TRIBULATION.

Production ..... William Fox
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Theda Bara
Length ..... Five Reels

Theda Bara is seen in this film, which deals with an ambitious woman's climb to fame. Olga Dolan is a stenographer at the time of meeting Cyril Ralston, a wealthy man of the world, who promises her marriage, only to break his word. Later Olga goes abroad as secretary to a Mr. Bromley, and when at the journey's end is horrified to discover that her employer's son is no other than Cyril Ralston, who, it transpires, is a married man. On condition that he introduces her to Rutledge, a man of immense influence, she agrees to a continuance of the relations, and her desire accomplished, reminds Ralston that the game of deception can be played by two, and in consequence is slandered by him and forced to leave the house. Friendless, she goes to Rutledge, who makes her his secretary, and she later gains an important signature for her employer. Finally, when the latter's insane wife dies, she realises her greatest ambition, and becomes his wife.

[See our Film Markings.]

* * *

"THE SHADOW BETWEEN."

SCREEN VERSION OF SILAS HOCKING'S NOVEL.

Production ..... Seal
Type ..... Drama
Stars .. Lewis Dayton and Doris Lloyd
Length ..... 5 Reels

A British film of unusual strength and originality, "The Shadow Between" is notable for some fine acting from Doris Lloyd. Coming from the pen of Silas Hocking, the film should be an attractive proposition for most showmen. The story concerns an Australian-bred girl's adventures in England, where, rescued from a wreck by the son of a noble but impoverished family, she stays at the man's house and although ignored by the mother, wins his love. Unfortunately for the girl, papers concerning her identity are locked in her trunk, which cannot be found till the breaking up of the ship. Going to London, she obtains work, unaware that a crafty aristocrat searches ceaselessly for the missing trunk. The day on which it is washed up finds the girl's rescuer also on the beach, and he gives chase to the mysterious thief. The latter loses his life by an accident, and later, when the box is opened, the girl's identity is disclosed, and she is able to marry the man she loves.

* * *

"THOU ART THE MAN."

TALE OF ILLICIT DIAMOND BUYING IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Production ..... Paramount Artcraft
Star ..... Robert Warwick
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... 5 Reels
Distributors ..... Famous-Lasky

An insight into the clever methods practised by the illegal diamond smugglers of South Africa, who induce the Kaffirs employed in the mines to steal the stones, and, by a cunningly contrived system of agents, convey them to the town for disposal, is revealed by this film. The hero, who is portrayed in a manly fashion by Robert Warwick, is accused of being the agent for an I.D.B. gang. Appearances are against him, but fearing to incriminate the woman he loves, he refuses to defend himself, and goes to prison for three years. After many exciting adventures, his innocence is proved, and he wins the girl he loves. Some fine scenery illustrating the African veldt is screened, and the scenes depicting a Kaffir compound and the working of an ostrich farm are exceptionally interesting.

[See our Film Markings.]

* * *

"THE TOILERS."

SUGGESTED FROM THE SONG BY M. PICCOLOMINI.

Controllers .. Neville Bruce Film Service
Type ..... Drama
Stars .. Manora Thew, Gwynne Herbert, George Dewhurst
Release ..... Sept. 6

There is plenty of strong human interest in "The Toilers," screened for the Neville Bruce Film Service at the Super Cinema on Friday. The story concerns the adventures of two boys. Jack is the son of a miner who loses his life in an accident. He is adopted by a poor widow whose own son, Bob, rapidly grows up and develops into a selfish youngster, leaving his mother to be cared for and looked after by Jack. He seizes the first opportunity to go to London, where he thinks to make his fortune, and deserts his pretty sweetheart, Rose, the daughter of the old lighthouse-keeper. By contriving a flirtation with the merchant's daughter, he thinks to become engaged to her, but when he approaches his employer the interview ends in a month's notice, and disillusioned Bob returns to the village. Here he finds changes. Rose has learned to love and marry Jack, and Bob's mother has become the wife of the lighthouse-keeper. Bob's repentance has come too late, but he wins his mother's forgiveness, and once more becomes one of the village "toilers." The acting is safe in the hands of Gwynne Herbert as the mother, Manora Thew as Rose, and George Dewhurst as the hero, Jack.

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"BLACK IS WHITE."

HUSBAND'S JEALOUSY NEARLY RUINS THE LIFE OF HIS WIFE AND SON.

Production ..... Thos. Ince
Star ..... Dorothy Dalton
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... 6 Reels
Distributors ..... Famous-Lasky

This picture is a fine medium for showing the versatility of Dorothy Dalton, who is first seen as Margaret, the gentle, obedient wife of Thomas Brood. Through the latter's uncontrollable jealousy the home is broken up, and she goes to live in Paris with her uncle, where, under the name of Yvonne, she becomes a recognised leader of society. Fifteen years elapse, and Brood, under the impression that Margaret is dead, comes to Paris, sees Yvonne, and failing to recognise her, falls in love and marries her again. They return to New York, and there is a cleverly constructed scene, in which the mother meets her son. Brood's jealousy is again aroused, this time against his son, and some powerful and dramatic scenes ensue before the truth is revealed, and Brood, repentant and humble, begs forgiveness. A strong cast, headed by Holmes E. Herbert, supports Miss Dalton.

* * *

"TREASURE ISLAND."

FILM VERSION OF R. L. STEVENSON'S FAMOUS STORY

Production ..... Paramount Artcraft
Stars ..... Shirley Mason, Lou Chaney and Charles Ogle
Type ..... Romantic Drama
Length ..... Six Reels
Distributors ..... Famous Lasky

Mr. Maurice Fournene has done his work remarkably well in this production. The picture is full of interest from beginning to end and crowded with fights between loyal sailors and mutineers, treasure-seekers and pirates. Some beautiful lighting effects are obtained, and the photography is of an exceptionally high order. Miss Shirley Mason plays the role of the hero, Jim Hawkins, remarkably well. Lou Chaney does excellent work in the dual rôles of Merry and Pew. Charles Ogle is very good as John Silver, and other parts are well enacted.

* * *

"NOTHING BUT LIES."

SHOWING THAT HONESTY IS (SOMETIMES) THE BEST POLICY

Production ..... Metro
Star ..... Taylor Holmes
Type ..... Comedy Drama
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... F.B.O.

Nash & Cross are a firm of advertising agents in a lucrative way of business. George Cross is the junior partner, and is engaged to Nash's pretty daughter. The son, Alan Nash, is also in the firm, and, joining a Truth Society, writes a pamphlet, entitled, "Zig Zag Zips," which gives Inside information regarding several specialties which the firm is boosting, and demonstrates, with brutal candour, that things are not what they seem. George Cross, in his endeavours to protect Alan, lies in such a fashion that he succeeds in disgracing him in the eyes of his fiancee and of her father. After numerous laughable situations, Alan convinces his family that he wrote the pamphlet, and George is reinstated in the affections of his sweetheart. Mr. Taylor Holmes will add to his rapidly-growing circle of admirers by his clever portraiture of George Cross. He is supported by an excellent company.

* * *

"POOR RELATIONS."

LOVE'S SIMPLE LESSON.

Type ..... Comedy-Drama
Star ..Za-Su Pitts and Florence Victor
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... Jury's

"Poor Relations" is a film which serves to introduce some delightful characters, and should have a large following. Za-Su Pitts is her usual quaint self, while Florence Victor puts in some good work. Dorothy, the clever daughter of a homely Maryland family, leaves her home-town to try her luck in the city. She meets the only son of a wealthy and aristocratic family, and, falling in love, agrees to become the boy's wife. Afterwards Dorothy's simple but lovable theories on life are laughed to scorn by her husband's supercilious friends, and a quarrel ensuing, the girl returns to her parents. The husband later comes to beg her forgiveness, and, surrounded by the gentleness and love of the little family, he realises the truth of his wife's theories, and there is a happy reconciliation

[See our Film Markings.]

* * *

"THE STRONGER SEX."

WIFE'S USELESS SACRIFICE FOR HUSBAND'S SAKE.

Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Pina Menichelli
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... Gaumont's

"The Stronger Sex" is a film which challenges the opinion that a man is more capable of bearing disaster than a woman Pina Menichelli invests the character of a wife who sacrifices her honour for her husband's sake with personality and fascination, and is well supported. Lina Carlion, coming from uncongenial home surroundings, finds her married life with Julian Morris, a young novelist, an earthly paradise. The young couple spend money freely, although Julian is unable to write another book, and while penning a commentary on Italian art he is pressed by moneylenders. After some hesitation he agrees to one of the paintings being taken as a security until the money is forthcoming. Lina, realising the hopelessness of the situation, calls upon a former admirer, gaining his help at a fearful cost. Hurrying back, she goes to her husband, and is horrified to find that, unable to face dishonour, he has taken the easiest way out.

Mr. P. A. Spiers has, we hear, been appointed manager of the Belfast branch of the Gaumont Film Hire Service.

"Dreams of Youth"

"Dreams of Youth" looks like attracting a big gathering to the London Pavilion next Wednesday afternoon, for the fame of this clever French production has been whispered far and wide. Enquiries and booking offers are, we hear, arriving at the Kilner offices in an ever-increasing stream, and the supply of tickets is already nearly exhausted.

The one outstanding quality of "Dreams of Youth" is its freshness of subject. Lucien Lehman, the author and producer, has depicted a phase of life which he knows intimately, and thus made the production both a piece of first-class screen-craft and a genuine labour of love.

It is no mere story of newspaper life, adapted to the requirements of the screen, but an original film story, written expressly for the purpose of presentation in picture form, and the entire production, from start to finish, was directed by the author himself. Lucien Lehman has, we hear, been able to draw very largely upon his own experience in depicting the fortunes of the little struggling newspaper which figures so largely in the film. Its success provides yet another argument, for those who have been opposing the adapted play or novel, in favour of the specially invented film story.

"The Way of the World."

At the next Granger trade show, down for Tuesday, June 29, at the West-End Cinema, the I. B. Davidson production, "The Way of the World," will be screened. The story is from the pen of A. E. Coleby. Following their usual custom, Granger's will show a "Granger's Marvel of the Universe" upon this occasion.

MR. CHARLES CULLUM.

Mr. Charles Cullum, playing in "Twice Two," a Minerva film comedy, is a cousin of the Earl of Limerick. He has been offered a long contract in America.

"Her Son."

A large crowd assembled at the London Pavilion to witness the first screening of the new Broadwest film, "Her Son," and the majority of the artists who took part in the film were present. Violet Hopson, who likes trade shows as much as a theatrical star likes "first nights," was given a big reception when she appeared in person, accompanied by her mother. Stewart Rome, Mercy Hatton, and Cameron Carr were also there to hear what they could of the critics' comments, and Mr. Walter West, who directed the picture, anxiously listened for any signs of disapproval. "I am always anxious to hear what people have to say at a trade show," said Mr. West, "one can always learn something new concerning the likes and dislikes of the public on such occasions."

"The Case of Lady Camber."

The new Broadwest production, "The Case of Lady Camber," is rapidly nearing completion, and despite the fact that Miss Violet Hopson has been suffering from a severe chill, she has bravely carried on with her work. One of the finest library sets ever introduced in a motion picture will, we hear, be seen in this film. Every portion of the "set" is solid, and the beautiful fireplace and overmantel appearing in the scene is one which was removed complete from the ancient manor house attached to the studio.

"Christopher Columbus."

Mr. Gerald Bourgeois asks us to state that the scenario of the film "Christopher Columbus," was written by him, and that he is solely responsible for this production in Spain. Mr. Bourgeois is now actively engaged on a big production for an Anglo-French undertaking.

Stoll Picture Theatre.

The directors of the Stoll Picture Theatre (Kingsway), Ltd., at a board meeting held last week at the Stoll offices, decided to declare an interim dividend on the ordinary shares at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum, less tax, for the past half year.

Consult Bramlin's.

With so many film producing companies springing up in so many places, the arrival of an institution like Bramlin's is bound to be of the utmost value to the much-troubled casting directors, who, if the fact that the agency is run by three men of long and varied experience in the film business be any criterion, will not suffer the annoyance of asking for one artist and being "palmed off" with another, not in the least of the type required. That is why Bramlin's must give entire satisfaction where many of its best-intentioned predecessors have failed.

Sale of Albert Halls, Swansea.

The Albert Halls, Swansea, which are situated in the heart of the town, and hold some 2,000 people, and which were offered for tender in these columns, have been sold to the Swansea Cinemas, Ltd., a strong syndicate of local tradesmen who already control the Carlton Cinema and the Picture House. The purchase price was £33,000, and it is understood that owing to the reconstruction difficulties experienced in every part of the country the building will be available for any public events for some time to come.

The great organ has been operated on by all the most famous organists in the kingdom, and in the hall all the world's most distinguished vocalists have appeared. It is the intention of the buyers to eventually use their acquisition as a super-cinema.

A Hepworth Company in Wales.

Henry Edwards, who is producing Theodore Watts-Dunton's "Aylwin," has just left for a tour of Wales, with members of the company who are appearing in the film. Several exteriors will be photographed on the locations which are mentioned in the book, so that good photographic effects, in addition to a fine story, ably portrayed by a first-class cast of players, may be looked for when this production is finished. Mr. Henry Edwards is playing the leading rôle, with Miss Chrissie White as Winifred Wynne and Miss Gwynne Herbert as Mrs. Aylwin.

A Tribute to "Bill."

John MacAndrews, who played the rôle of "Bill"—"Alf's" (Leslie Henson) mate—in "Alf's Button," was, we hear, recently presented with a gold watch by Cecil M. Hepworth. It bore an inscription which read: "To Bill—the only 'bill' we've ever been pleased to have."

Vitagraph.

Antonio Moreno, the Vitagraph star, took a couple of hours' vacation from his new serial, "The Veiled Mystery," recently, and with Thomas Meigham was a guest of honour at a special performance given by the children of the Los Angeles Orphan Asylum on the eve of their annual shower day. Each star contributed to the shower, which supplies the orphans with useful good things for the year.

Tom Terriss, who has been directing the Vitagraph special production, "Trumpet Island," by Governeur Norris, has left Los Angeles for New York, where he will make the final serial scenes over the Hudson River.

"Three Men in a Boat."

Messrs. Lionelle Howard, Johnny Butt, and H. Manning Haines are appearing in Artistic Films, Ltd., coming all-English production, "Three Men in a Boat," the picture version of the well-known story by Jerome K. Jerome. Mr. Hugh Croise is the producer, and also adapted the story for the screen.

The Movies in Melbourne.

Melbourne moving picture lovers are to be further catered for in the near future—writes our Melbourne correspondent under date April 17—new theatres being contemplated in both city and suburbs. An amalgamation has recently been effected covering enormous interests, and involving a capital in shareholdings, films, and theatre buildings of £3,000,000. The first move of this new organisation, which involves the following companies, Union Theatres, Ltd., Australian Films, Ltd., J. C. Williamson Films, Electric Films, Ltd., The Greater J. D. Williams Amusement Co., Ltd., Spencer's Pictures, Ltd., West's Pictures, Ltd., Amalgamated Pictures, Ltd., and the General Film Company, of Australia, Ltd., will be the erection of a theatre on a scale hitherto unheard of in Australia, in Bourke Street, Melbourne, to be followed soon after by a similar venture in George Street, Sydney. In this connection Mr. F. W. Thring, managing director of Electric Theatres, Ltd., and one of the new directors of Union Theatres, Ltd., and Australian Films, Ltd., recently left for New York, taking with him a well-known Melbourne architect.

"Build Thy House."

Henry Ainley is making his first appearance under his new contract with the Ideal in that firm's coming production of "Build Thy House." This is the story that won the Ideal's prize of £200. It is an essentially modern tale, dealing in a dramatic but fresh manner with the great labour struggle.

United Kingdom Photoplays.

Following the great success of "Her Life for Love," which was shown to the trade a few weeks ago, and the bookings of which are, we hear, phenomenal, United Kingdom Photoplays, Ltd., are showing three features this week: "Light in Darkness," featuring Shirley Mason, shown on Monday; "The Slave Mart," featuring Margaret Snow, to-day (Wednesday); and "Courage of the Commonplace," featuring Mildred Haven, on Thursday.

Mary Pickford Arrives.

Mary Pickford, "the world's sweetheart," and her almost equally famous husband, Douglas Fairbanks, arrived in London on Monday afternoon, and were given a cordial greeting by the crowd which had gathered at Waterloo Station. On their arrival at Southampton earlier in the day, the popular couple were welcomed by a deputation from the Hampshire branch of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association.

FOR SALE.
SMALL CINEMA.
(SEA-SIDE)

No reasonable offer refused. Money urgently needed. Everything ready to start at once. Power's No. 6 Machine in splendid condition. Tip-up red plush chairs, Electric Light Fittings, &c. Same hands for years; or would sell Machine and Fixtures separate. Apply:—BOX 485, "THE ERA" OFFICE, LONDON.

WOMEN IN THE FILM BUSINESS

Under the auspices of the Women's Freedom League, Miss Leila Lewis gave a lecture on Thursday, the 10th inst., at Mortimer Hall, Mortimer-street, W., on "Opportunities for Women in the Film Business." Miss Helen Normanton presided.

Miss Lewis opened her lecture by referring to the various ways by which a woman might become a film actress, but as evidence of the difficulties which had to be faced, mentioned the case of a girl who, though she possessed personal qualifications for film acting, for a whole year was only able to obtain crowd work, and only recently had been offered a leading part in a production at £5 a week.

But there were other opportunities for women in the film business. Why should there not be women producers? She was acquainted with only two, and they were American women. There was also an opening for women as assistant directors, and the casting of the small parts might very well be placed in their hands. But it was necessary that some film company should take the first step, and their example would no doubt be followed. Women wardrobe mistresses were also wanted in the film business—she knew only of one firm that had a properly organised wardrobe department. She deplored the fact that in many of the studios there were no proper resting places provided for those engaged in screen work, and the cooking was also very unsatisfactory. A woman she would like to see in the studios was one who was able to advise artists how to make up to suit each particular studio, as no two studios were alike. This should be quite an interesting occupation for women.

Miss Lewis having expressed her willingness to answer questions, a number were put to her by ladies present. She expressed her opinion that the highest ideal in film production was only to be obtained by a combination of men and women in the work. At present there was too much of a monopoly by men. She did not think that film acting could be taught unless the aspirant to film fame had the ability for that special kind of work. No advantage was gained, she thought, by young girls entering beauty competitions.

A lady present said she had given up scenario writing chiefly because of the inadequate remuneration.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to Miss Lewis, proposed by Miss Underhill.

"JUDGE NOT."

FILMING OF CARNIVAL BALL SCENE.

The London Film Company's fine studio at St. Margaret's, Twickenham, was a veritable hive of industry recently, when the big Carnival Ball Scene, one of the most important sets in Mr. J. Bruun's production of "Judge Not," was taken. In this fine scene, with its magnificent staircase and balcony, artistically decorated and furnished, Miss Fay Compton, assisted by the Palace Theatre chorus, appeared. In a bewitching pierrot costume, she has a dancing entrance down the staircase. Then follows an animated scene depicting the glories of a carnival ball, with pierrots, corsairs, costers, swells, shepherdesses, and all the other carnival characters, numbering about 350. It was all carried through with an artistry and enthusiasm that redounds greatly to the credit of Mr. J. Bruun. The enthusiastic co-operation of all concerned in the production was a notable feature of the filming of this effective scene. In addition to Miss Fay Compton, a fine cast includes Henry Vibart, Adeline Hayden-Coffin, Choppell Dossett, Mary Brough, George Bellanny, Fred Groves, and Christine Silver.

FAMOUS WRITERS FOR THE SCREEN.

JESSE L. LASKY'S SCHEME.

Mr. Jesse L. Lasky, vice-president of the Famous Players-Lasky Corporation, has recently arrived here from America. As the gentleman responsible for their productions he has come on a special mission, to interest our leading English novelists and dramatists in the idea of writing scenarios direct for the screen. Already Sir James Barrie, whose "Admirable Crichton" has had a trade show, and whose "Peter Pan" and "The Little Minister" are earmarked for production, is enthusiastic over the scheme. Mr. H. A. Jones, Mr. Arnold Bennett, and Mr. Knoblock are also converts to the idea.

Mr. Lasky's idea is to get the very best British authors, the best British actors, and the most beautiful British scenery, and thus give American audiences, as well as English and French cinema-goers, a glimpse of the real all-British productions with local environment and typical representation by the best native talent.

Besides the admirable studio in Islington, capable of turning out immense screen capacity, plans for building in Bombay and Paris are well on the way to fruition. Mr. Lasky surmises that the days of the adaptation of novels for the screen are numbered. He hopes that characters and scenery true to type will be exhibited across the water, and will be equally popular in Broadway, Leicester-square, or Hong Kong. This idea of doing away with the crude, palpably unreal and un-English type of picture now so frequently prevalent will foster better relations between the countries concerned, and will enable them to better understand one another. Just as "the play's the thing," according to Shakespeare, so Mr. Lasky desires the film to be the all-in-all, and not subservient to the star. So much in vogue in America are these super-cinema scenarios that authors and adaptors, like Mr. Cosmo Hamilton, are eagerly acquiring the knowledge wherewith to make the film into a story, or even a play. The cast of "A Great Day," the next Famous Players-Lasky production, includes Mr. Arthur Bourchier (Sir Jonathan Borthwick), Miss May Palfrey (Susan), Bertram Burleigh (Frank Beresford), Marjorie Hume, Percy Standing, Geoffry Kerr, Maggie Albanesi, and Mrs. Hayden Coffin.

ON THE ROAD.

[Will Managers kindly send in their Tour Lists for insertion in "On the Road" by Monday morning in each week]

PLAYS.

Abbott, Ernest.—June 21, Hip., Hamilton; 28, T.R., Inverness.
Abraham Lincoln.—June 21, G., Leeds; 28, O.H., Scarborough.
Allington Charsley Opera Co.—June 28, R., Chatham.
Are You a Mason?—June 21, M.H., Inverness; 28, T.R., Newcastle.
Baynton Shakespearean Co. (Henry).—June 21, O.H., Harrogate; 28, P.O.W., Birmingham.
Belle of New York.—June 21, Whitby and Buxton; 28, Worthing and Bognor.
Blindness of Virtue.—June 21, T.R., Chatham.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—June 21, P.O.W., Birmingham.
Carminetta.—June 21, Rochdale.
Compton Comedy Co.—June 21, Lyc., Edinburgh; 28, G., W. Hartlepool.
Cray (Oswald) Rept. Co.—June 21, O.H., Burton-on-Trent.
Curse of the Black Pearl.—June 21, G., Nottingham; 28, T.R., Sheffield.
Custody of the Child.—June 28, Hip., Gateshead.
Daddalums.—June 21, O.H., Scarboro'; 28, W.P., Brighton.
Daddy Long-Legs (Miller).—June 21, P.O.W., Grimsby; 28, G., Croydon.
Damaged Goods.—June 28, O.H., Jersey (4), O.H., Guernsey (2).
Discharged with Honour.—June 21, G., W. Hartlepool.
Disgraced.—June 21, T.R., Sheffield; 28, T.R., W. Bromwich.
Dobell (W. L.) Rep.—June 21, Cinema, Carrick-on-Suir; 28, T.H., Tipperary.
Doran Shakespearean Co. (Chas.).—June 21 G., Southampton; 28, D.P., Eastbourne.
End of the Road.—June 21, T.H., Manchester.
Five Nights.—June 21, Emp., Swindon; 28, T.R., Bradford.
Gay Bohemia.—June 21, Hip., Huddersfield; 28, H.M., Carlisle.
Heart of a Thief.—June 21, W.H., Ogmorevale; 28, Emp., Mountain Ash.
His Ignorant Wife.—June 21, Prince's, Bradford.
Ignorance.—June 28, T.R., Stratford, E.
Inside the Lines.—June 21, Brixton Theatre, S.W.
Jeffersons, The.—June 21, County, Reading; 28, O.H., Leicester.
Kinema Kid.—June 21, Palace, Bordesley.
Laurence Rep. (Leonard).—June 21, T.R., Edinburgh; 28, T.R., Edinburgh.
Law Divine.—June 21, Palace Pier, Brighton.
Little Babette.—June 21, Col., Aberystwyth; 28, Alh., Stourbridge.
Mice and Men.—June 21, W. Pier, Brighton; 28, New Pal., Westcliff-on-Sea.
Milestones (Platt & Eaton).—June 21, R. Art., Woolwich.
Mill Girl's Wedding.—June 21, T.R., Guildford; 28, T.R., Guildford.
Mother Should Tell (Lew Lake's Co.).—June 21, Bolton; 28, Peterborough.
My Aunt from New York.—June 21, T.R., Guildford; 28, T.R., Guildford.
Natural Law.—June 21, Doncaster.
Naughty Wife.—June 21, Palace, Ramsgate; 28, T.R., Bournemouth.
Nothing But the Truth (Miller).—June 21, P.'s, Bristol; 28, Shakespeare, Liverpool.
Oh! Betsy.—June 21, Court, Warrington; 28, R., St. Helens.
O'Mara Opera Co.—June 21, Gaiety, Dublin.
One Law for Both.—June 21, Garrick, Edinburgh; 28, Hip., Hamilton.
Plaything of an Hour.—June 21, O.H., Burton-on-Trent.
Purple Mask (King & Clark).—June 21, T.R., Glasgow; 28, G., Derby.
Pygmalion.—June 21, Rochdale; 28, Halifax.
Quaker Girl.—June 21, T.R., Bath; 28, New, Salisbury.
Raynor Rep. Co.—June 21, T.R., Bradford.
Red-Heads.—June 21, Hip., Norwich; 28, Hip., Ipswich.
Ridding Opera Co. (John).—June 21, G., Wellington; 28, Hip., Burslem.
Right to Live.—June 21, W.H., Ogmorevale; 28, Emp., Mountain Ash.
Romance of the Rosary.—June 21, Guildford; 28, T.R., Guildford.
Rotters.—June 21, T.R., Lincoln; 28, Royalty, Chester.
Sacred and Profane Love.—June 21, Lowestoft.
Seven Days' Leave.—June 21, Grand, Blackpool; 28, G., Accrington.
Sinner in Paradise.—June 21, T.R., Bolton.
Soiled.—June 21, H.M., Carlisle.
Stephens (Dot) Rep. Co.—June 21, T.R., York; 28, Pal., Newcastle.
Temporary Gentleman.—June 21, O.H., Leicester; 28, O.H., Harrogate (3). O.H., Scarboro' (3).
Tiger's Cub.—June 21, Pier, Eastbourne; 28, P.P., St. Leonards.
Too Many Bits of Fluff.—June 21, Pier, Herne Bay.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—June 21, Queen's, Farnworth.
Wagner & Skardon Rep. Co.—June 21, T.R., Sheffield; 28, T.R., West Bromwich.
Week-End, A.—June 21, O.H., Middlesbro'; 28, Art., Woolwich.
What is Home Without a Mother?—June 21, T.R., Leicester.
All Aboard.—June 21, King's, Manchester; 28, O.H., Manchester.
As You Were.—June 21, Hip., Willesden; 28, Hip., Ilford.
Buzz Along.—June 21, T., Gainsboro'; 28, T.R., Bury St. Edmunds.
Buzz-Buzz.—June 21, Oxford.
Certainly Not.—June 21, T.R., Crook; 28, Have You Got Me?.—June 21, Emp., Burnley.
T.R., Seaham Harbour.
Heads or Tails.—June 21, Hip., Salford; 28, Pav., Liverpool.
Hello! Blackpool.—June 21, O.H., Kidderminster; 28, G., Gravesend.
Hooray, We're Here!—June 21, Vic., Lyc; 28, Hip., Cannock.
Hullo! America.—June 21, Boro', Stratford.
Hustle.—June 21, Hippo., Southend; 28, Margate.
Lads of the Village.—June 21, Hip., Aston; 28, Empire, Penge.
Mumming Birds.—June 21, Emp., Finsbury Park; 28, Emp., Birmingham.
Na-Poo.—June 21, T.H., Merthyr Tydfil.
Nothing Doing.—June 21, Pal., Doncaster; 28, County, Bedford.
Rat-Tat-Tat.—June 21, Emp., Nottingham; 28, Emp., Swansea.
Same to You.—June 21, Olym., Liverpool; 28, G., Birmingham.
Scarlet Runners.—June 21, Globe, Consett; 28, Pal., Durham.
Sweet Fanny Adams.—June 21, O.H., St. Helens; 28, G., Llandudno.
Touchwood.—June 21, Col., Ilkeston.
What Next.—June 21, P., Glasgow.

A DANCING DISPLAY.

MLLE. EILEEN BELLAMY'S PUPILS.

The display of dancing at the Surrey Masonic Hall on Tuesday, the 15th, spoke volumes for the efficiency of the teaching of Mlle. Eileen Bellamy at the Maslova Dancing Academy. Seeing that Mlle. Bellamy is probably the youngest teacher of dancing in the metropolis, being only eighteen years of age, the results achieved were nothing short of wonderful. A great deal of interest was centred in Baby Ida Dunville, niece of Mr. T. E. Dunville, the well-known comedian. Little Miss Dunville greatly distinguished herself in a pas seul, entitled "Twinkle-Toe," and was also well in the picture during several of the ballets. Another very promising pupil is Miss Olive Langton, a senior student, who already seems to have mastered all the technique of her art. This was particularly evident in a significant little pas seul, "The Butterfly and the Storm," wherein Miss Langton fluttered to and fro with all the daintiness and grace imaginable.

Interesting items on the programme were a classical ballet, entitled "The Flower Fairies," and a dance scena, "A Bunch of Roses," which was recently produced at the St. George's Hall. In this item three other young ladies, Miss Iris Powell, Miss Winnie Cragg, and Miss Kitty Hayman put in some very useful work. Other pupils who attracted favourable comment were Miss Coreen Burnett, Miss Muriel McArthers, Miss Ena Blanchette, Miss Doris Dean, Miss Viola Cavelier, Miss Iris Tarr, Miss Irene Jesper Bull, and little Eileen Webb. Mlle. Bellamy's contributions to the programme were numerous and varied. Perhaps the most interesting was her performance in a miniature ballet entitled "Nirvana," wherein her miming and evolutions proved her to be a genuine front rank dancer. By way of variety Miss Gloria Lawrence, a chic comedienne, sang several enjoyable numbers; and a diminutive comedian, Master Leonard Blanchettie, created amusement as a miniature Chirgwin, singing that good old favourite, "My Fiddle Is My Sweetheart."

Wakefield Opera House.

It is gratifying to learn that the Opera House, Wakefield, is still to remain in the hands of Messrs. Sherwood and Co., whose bookings and pencillings are indeed a compliment not only to the management, but to the City of Wakefield. During the summer vacation the building is to be entirely re-seated, re-carpeted, and re-decorated. Messrs. Frank Matcham and Co., the eminent London architects who erected the building, and also the Empire, Wakefield, for Messrs. Sherwood and Co. have entire charge of the alterations. When completed, the Opera House promises to be one of the coolest and most comfortable theatres in the provinces.

"THE ERA" LETTER BOX.

A Stamped addressed Envelope must be enclosed with application for each Letter. No circulars or Parcels admitted to this List. No addition or omission can be made to this List after 12 noon Monday. Whilst exercising all necessary care, we do not hold ourselves responsible for any loss sustained in connection with "The Era" Letter Box.

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Clarkson, Mr. Sydney
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Clifton, Miss Daisy
Cody, Mr. C. R.
Cole, Mr. Lionel
Collins, Mr. E.
Collins, Miss Lottie
Connor, Mr. Fred
Coutts, Mr. Sandy
Craig, Mr. E. Gordon
Crawford, Miss Alice
Croft, Miss Annie
Cromwell, Mr. A. E.
Crouch, Mr. P.
Crouin, Mr. M.
Cutler, Miss Kate
Dalton, Mr. P.
Dalva, Capt. J. P.
Daly, Miss Barnella
Dane, Mr. Cyril
Davis, Mr. Cleve
Day, Miss Edith
De Biere, A.
Delacey, Miss Maude
Desmond, Miss Madge
Diacoff, Mr. Tom
Dixon, Miss Emmie
Dona, Madame
Donnett, Madame
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Duncan, Mr. W.
Edmonds, Mr. E. V.
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Elsom, Miss Isobel
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Fairy, Miss
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Fenton, Mr. G. P.
Fenton, Miss Madge
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Forbes, Miss Dolly
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Fourasi, Monsieur Eugene
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Gaston, Mr. R. C.
George, Mr. George
Glaner, Miss Ruby
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Glenny, Mr. Charles
Glover, Mr. Millicent
Gordons, The Three
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Windle, Mr. Wm.
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The remainder of the programme was familiar. The opening ballet was "The Walpurgis Night," in which chief honours were carried off by Mlles. Vera Karalli, Hilda Bulsova, and Brunova and Mons. Alexandre Volinine. Then followed the beautiful and delicate "Chopiniana," through which floated Anna Pavlova, the daintiest of gossamer, whilst the evening closed with the usual liberal allowance of divertissements, including Mme. Pavlova's inimitable "La Cygne." Mr. Theodore Stier is still chef d'orchestre. The reception was wholly enthusiastic, and Mme. Pavlova and her talented company were called again and again.

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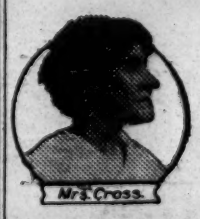

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PETER DONALD and META CARSON

"THE STABLE BOY." "Doing Very Well, Thank You."
ON TOUR
P.A., 76, THE LAWNS, SHEPHERD'S BUSH. Agent, GEO. BARCLAY.

HINSLE

THE NOVELTY COMEDY ILLUSIONIST Assisted by GERTIE REES.
This Week, EMPIRE, HACKNEY. Next, EMPIRE, WOOD GREEN

WARDINI

South Africa. All Coms. to WILL LUND

Howard FLYNN and Elsye HAYNSON

The Celebrated Composer-Pianist. The Little Lady with the Big Voice.
In Original Song Creations featuring Famous Melodies.
ON TOUR
P.A., 96, GRAY'S INN ROAD, W.C.

The Original Combination

MICHAELOFF TRIO

The most artistic and refinest Musical Act ever visited Barnsley.—Mr. Alf Sinclair's opinion

June 21, c/o 10, GLOVER ST., LEEDS, 28, EMPIRE, CLYDEBANK

ELKINS, FAY & ELKINS

MIRTH, MELODY AND SYNCOPATION.

Agent—WALTER BENTLEY.

Frederick

SYLVESTER & Co.

The Neatest of the Neat.
This Week, EMPIRE, LIVERPOOL
Next, EMPIRE, BIRMINGHAM

"Those people who tell agents that I have not got the same kind of act should not jump to conclusions when they see me advertising for a man. IT'S A LIBEL."

P.A., 1, Southwold Mansions, Widley Road, Maida Vale, W.9
'Phone—Hampstead 1998 Agent, B. SHEREK

CONNIE

BROWNING

June 28, CONTROLLING TOUR, July 5, LIVERPOOL

EMMELYN

Walter

IN SONG & STORY

Now concluding South African Tour
Opening Syndicate Tour in Sept. No Vacancies

Unexpectedly—VACANT, MONDAY NEXT.
AND A FEW IMMEDIATE DATES.

— THE —
GREAT DE-VILLE

(THE WIZARD OF THE ARMY), presenting a
Spectacular, Sensational, Bewildering Performance.
The Act that has baffled over 3,000 Police, Doctors, and Scientists in all parts of the world.
A UNIQUE and STAGGERING PERFORMANCE.
ELABORATELY STAGED. INSPIRINGLY PRESENTED.
Anyone Wanting a SENSATIONAL DRAWING TOP
WIRE OR WRITE:—
28, Brunswick St., Ardwick, Manchester. Salary or Sharing Terms.
Next week—BIJOU THEATRE, HULL, with my own Company.
Managers and Agents invited to see this Spectacular, Sensational Top-Liner.

ERNIE REDFERN

The Somewhat Different Light Comedian.
This Week, HIPPO., WOOLWICH. VACANT, June 28 and July 5

TELEGRAMS: OSWALSTOLL, WESTRAND, LONDON. NEW TELEPHONE: GERRARD 7545 (2 lines).

STOLL OFFICES

COLISEUM BUILDINGS, CHARING CROSS, LONDON, W.C.

COLISEUM SYNDICATE, Ltd., MIDDLESEX THEATRE OF VARIETIES, Ltd., HACKNEY AND SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE PALACES, Ltd., WOOD GREEN EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, Ltd., MANCHESTER HIPPODROME AND ARDWICK EMPIRE, Ltd., LEICESTER PALACE THEATRE, Ltd., CHISWICK EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, Ltd., CHATHAM EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, Ltd., ST. AUGUSTINE'S PARADE HIPPODROME, BRISTOL, Ltd.

Chairman & Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Secretary and Chief Accountant, W. S. GORDON MICHIE.
ARTISTES' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations—A. D. DAVIS: Dates—LLEWELLYN JOHNS.
Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR JUNE 28, 1920.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Clarice Mayne, Gavrilloff, Corsalla and Eddie, Bi-Bo-Bi, Five Petleys, Kajyama, Syncopated Orchestra, Louis Morrisson.

STOLL PICTURE THEATRE, KINGSWAY. (London Opera House.)
Pictures and Varieties.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Lake and Barrasford, Estelle Rose, Gaston Palmer, Syd Sydney, Ella Shields.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMP.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Ajax and Emily, Jorers, Haywood and Hay, Tom Stuart, Alban Roberts, Lupino Lane, Olive Dene.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Haley's Juvenilles, Ernest Shand, Hinale, Charles Grantley.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Clark's Cyclists, Yelson Trio, Jean Andrews, Dene Dunlop, Five Bombays.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
George Mozart, E. D. Nichols, Pasquali Bros., Laurelsa Quintette, Zellini, Marcelle de Vere.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—
Lucan and McShane, Herbert Lee, Kavanaghs, O'Brien and Lady, Victor Andre, Fayre Four, Molly Drew

BEDMINSTER HIPPO.
Pictures and Varieties.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Peter Paris, Alf Leonard, Bryan O'Sullivan, Fisher and Lea, Orpheus, Dollie and Billie.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Carthy and Dale, Harry Ford, Wells and Eclair Twins, Elizabeth Hyde, Ben Beyer, Noni and Horace.

MANCHESTER HIPPO.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Huxter Bros., Sisters Kouns, Wilf. Barnard, Ray Kay and Co., Dolly and Billy Harley, Mazuz and Mazette.
(Matinees Monday and Tuesday).

PICTUREHOUSE, CHATHAM
FLORAL HALL, LEICESTER.

And in association with the above—

THE ALHAMBRA, LONDON, W.C.
Harry M. Vernon's "Johnny Jones," featuring George Robey.

NOTE.—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at the end of the week.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—
FULHAM HIPPODROME.

The distance as the crow flies between the Finsbury Park Empire and the Wood Green Empire, measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards.—Edward Stanford.

14 BAND PARTS REQUIRED for all Theatres except The London Coliseum which requires at least 28, including 4 first Violin Parts, 2 second Violin Parts, separate 'Cello and Bass Parts, full Wood, Wind and Brass, Conductor. (Harp and Organ if required).

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the orders, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

THE LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

PROVIDING CONTINUOUS ENGAGEMENTS FOR ARTISTS AT THE MOST IMPORTANT VARIETY THEATRES IN THE LONDON AREA.
GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES:
25, CHARING CROSS ROAD, W.C.
Telephone Nos., Gerrard 5654 and 2619.

Calls for Monday, June 28, 1920.

LONDON PAVILION.
C. B. Cochran's Season.

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.
C. B. Cochran's Production
"The Man Who Came Back."

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.15.
Nevo and Knox. Six Heraldos.
Chester Courtney. Chris Van Bern.
Robert Lacey. Jessiman and Coppin.
Kitty Euckley. Jean and Jeanne Laulhe.
Bioscope.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12.
H. Woolward to present
"The Girl in the Taxi."

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Charles Windermere and Co. in
"Oh! Alexander."

WATFORD PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
Sydney Bransgrove presents
"Inconstant George."

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Great Como. Three Scamps. Kenna Bros.
Fred Hutchins. Mandie Ford.
Ryewodes Trio. Jack Stocks. Owen Thomas.
Bioscope.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Harry Burns presents Grand Opera.

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Leon Vint presents
"Three Weeks."

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Cliff Berrac. Crosland's Melody Makers.
Dick Henderson. Russell and Durbin.
Kitty Curtis. A. D. Elleray. Dumorski.
Bonaudo and Francis. Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
Harry Slingsby to present
"Maid of the South."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artists without prejudice.

Bill matter to be sent direct to the Manager of each hall three weeks prior to the date of opening.

MUSIC HALL CARDS.

ATLAS-VULCANA TROUPE.
This, Ilford. Next, Hip., Poplar.
Requires July 5, 12.

FAYRE FOUR, THE, SISTERS,
Tina, Inga, Lilla and Sylva, World's Greatest English Concertina Quartette.
P.A., 4, Speenham-rd., Stockwell, London.

LUNE (Lena) and SHAW. (Howard)
"Hemp eck and Pecker's Return"
(Copyright No. 37691.)

MISS DAISY JAMES.
Everybody's Favourite.
This week, Collins's, Islington.
June 28, Grand, Clapham.
Coms., 45, Sudbourne-rd., Brixton Hill, S.W. 'Phone, 2115 Brixton.

MISS PATTI LOFTUS.
June 21, Palace, Halifax.
June 28, Dunfermline.

MR. BRANSBY WILLIAMS.
Business Manager, Ernest Edelsten.

T. E. DUNVILLE.
London always.
Gulliver's Travels, 4 trips nightly.
Letters, c/o "The Era."
Sole Agent, Mr. Walter Bentley.
New Songs,
"Quibbles."
"Never Twice Alike."

MR. F. V. ST. CLAIR.
The Always Up-to-date
Booked till end of 1921.
With few exceptions. Direct mostly.
Still Composing Big Numbers.
Still Starring. Still a Huge Favourite.
On Tour

FELDMANISM

IS

REALISM.

TEST IT !

London: Printed for the Proprietors of "The Era," 35, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C., by Messrs. Love & Malcomson, Ltd., at Dane-street, High Holborn, W.C.1. Wednesday, June 23, 1920.